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THE THREE QUESTIONS.

THERE are, among many subjects of public discussion at present, three which claim precedence over the rest by their importance and their interest. These are—1st, India; 2nd, Reform; 3rd, Commercial distress. We follow the old custom in giving the *pas* to the more purely political ones; but our readers know that we have ever maintained that the social condition of the country is at bottom always the subject of paramount consideration. On this occasion, we propose to discuss these points with reference to the latest views broached about them—to endeavour, in fact, to popularise what we believe to be the philosophy of each question.

The Indian campaign, as illustrated by the latest telegrams, is a matter for separate discussion by itself. Here—especially as nobody doubts that we shall hold the country—it is sufficient to deal with the political rather than the military side of the affair. What line is Parliament going to take about India? As far as we yet see, this—the first question—is having a very commonplace answer made to it. The obvious duty of recognising Havelock's services has been performed—and the country delights to honour such a man. It is curious, indeed, to see how small in most cases is the money reward of this kind of excellence. A man saves an empire, and gets a smaller income for it than the manager of a factory. The late heroic Salkeld's pay was less than many a clerk's. Let the public honour which comes to such men—and is so vastly disproportionate to the public money which comes—set as a stimulant to our youth. It is the world's testimony that there is something which money cannot measure and cannot pay. The wars which seem now to be the destiny of England, are at least doing some good by thus improving our national morale. At the same time, the world ought not to deduct in pudding what it gives in laurels. All good work ought, as a matter of prudence, to be well paid.

So far, Government does its duty and no more. But it makes up for supporting the popular heroes by supporting its own ones. It pensions Havelock, and defends Canning. It follows established precedent by insisting that everything has been done in the best manner by its Governor-General and itself. With regard to the first of these authorities, we fully admit that the public does not yet possess the means of giving a final decision on his conduct. Yet it is significant that what his admirers advance for him is all of a very mild and neutral character. Their panegyrics read like mild apologies. They do not point to great and striking instances of perception and resolution, but seem to be always thanking their stars that his Lordship is no worse. In fact, there is negative evidence that he is an ordinary man. His most striking performances—against the Press and his countrymen—are at least startling. The orner we have always treated most tenderly, precisely because we knew it was in some degree our own affair. The theory of both strokes of policy is plain. Lord Canning and his official advisers wanted to treat the mutiny as a question between the sepoys and the Government—not between the natives and the British. Unfortunately, the natives themselves did not share this view—for as sepoys, bazaar *canaille*, and villagers, their only feeling was of hatred to the white. They murdered a poor devil of an "adventurer"—a railway clerk or printer—as impartially as they did a "resident,"

proud of his officiality and splendid in his pay. No wonder, then, that a settler did not like to be snubbed by a Company which had failed to protect his class, and which seemed to snub him in order to curry favour with Bengalese. The *onus* of showing the good of such doings lies with the Governor-General and his advisers—the *disguis* they caused is explicable on the surface.

Supporting Lord Canning, Ministers must find easier work than supporting their transport of troops. The tardiness of their reinforcements is plainer every mail, and we wish we had yet seen the last of its consequences! At this point, we cannot help remarking on the great dearth of parliamentary tribunes now. People are a-raid of the Government, and the smallest epigram in the style of the

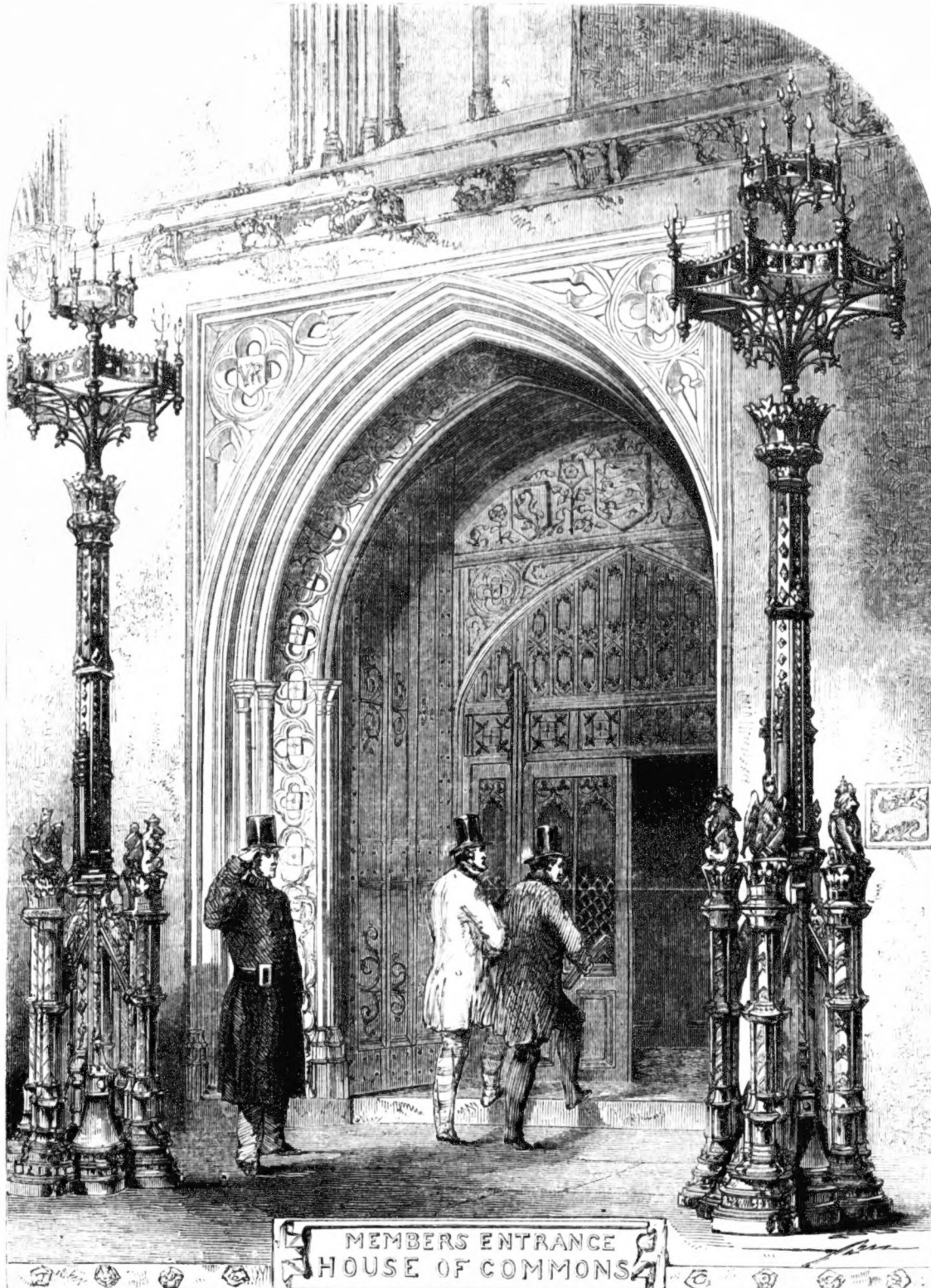
Bill a real one; and in this matter, our two last questions—Reform and Distress—mutually help each other. It is natural that they should. There is not, indeed, the connection that some people fancy between an English workman's not having a vote, and the inability of Yankee firms to pay for pigs of iron. But there is a connection between bad currency systems or a neglect of such social reforms as improve the condition of the people, and an imperfect state of the House of Commons. The theory of all Reform Bills is that the House should be improved. Now, that any House will ever make distress impossible is a palpable absurdity to hope. But that is no answer to the demand for a better House, a House more accurately suited to its own theory of representation, and more likely to decrease

the chances of great distress by wise and earnest legislation. Those who are suffering, then, are really logical in strengthening their demand for reform in periods when their suffering is most heavy. Unless legislation is of no consequence, the quality of our legislation must affect the condition of our people. Holding, as they do, that they would choose better men to legislate, it is quite reasonable that they should be more eager to attain the power, just now. Probably, the influence of the present state of things will just be the stimulus needful to make a Reform Bill a subject of national interest. The Premier has announced his intention of bringing in one, and certainly, till he has either declined the task or performed it unsatisfactorily, he is entitled to be trusted in, and have proper time given him.

Meanwhile, the distress which prevails must be met on its own ground, as an immediate material fact that will stand no postponement. It is all very well to tell people that it is as natural for them to be starving as for the nation to be rich. The law of necessity is as deep as any economical law, and must be recognised. Great efforts must be made to support the people, not only through the regular poor-law machinery, but through the activity of well-to-do persons, acting in concert in their own districts. There is no reason why any man should be humiliated by receiving help. It is his right; and it was by the recognition of that right, from man to man, that Europe was Christianised and civilised, and nations organised into such imperfect brotherhoods as they have yet attained. A vast deal remains to be done for the working classes by private effort and by legislation—as the laws of trade get better understood—as teaching about the duties of life spreads—and as the world learns to admit that *all* the philosophy of society does not consist in letting things alone. It will be a good sign when public men and

Parliaments give such inquiries their proper rank. It might check their vanity to reflect that when unwonted pressure comes, we are obliged, in spite of modern science, to fall back only on the old law of love and charity which was preached just eighteen hundred and odd years ago.

THE AMALGAMATION OF THE COLLEGES AT WOOLWICH AND SANDHURST is proposed. The scheme also proposes to place the pupils' united schools upon the Addiscombe system. Superior attainments will give the claim to engineer and artillery appointments; the less capable will be appointed to cavalry or infantry of the line.



oldest saloons disposes of a modern orator with the best case. Let us hear more of the whole question why steamers were postponed to sailing vessels, and *who* it was that pooh-poohed the overland route. This sort of information will help us to apportion claims between Crown and Company, Board of Control and Leadenhall Street. For this great inquiry we shall have to wait, with nothing certain but that it must end in a Crown triumph, though there will be many a nut to crack over the details. The fact is, Government's object is to make the Indemnity Bill the only real feature of the pre-Christmas session; and the flag of Reform was waved in the Speech to coax people's eyes to turn to next year.

The opinion strengthens that Palmerston will make his Reform

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The sittings of the French Legislative Body have been prorogued until the 18th of January.

Two or three officers and half a company of Engineers have been ordered to join the French squadron in the China seas.

The suspension of the "Presse" for three months, in consequence of some remarks on the refusal of MM. Carnot and Goudchaux to take the oath, has caused a great sensation.

The Emperor paid a visit to Queen Christina, at Malmison, last week, doubtless to congratulate her on the birth of the Prince of the Asturias. The Empress paid a visit to King Jerome at the Palais Royal, and there met Queen Christina.

SPAIN.

The Madrid journals contain no political news of interest.

Distribution of bread, meat, and wine, was made on the occasion of the birth of the Prince of the Asturias to the garrisons of Madrid and the neighbouring places. Her Majesty and the Prince were as well as could be wished. The Queen had commuted the sentences of death on five criminals. The Prince, on the day of his baptism, is to be decorated with the Order of the Golden Fleece and with the Cross of Pelayo, which last Princes of the Asturias can alone wear. The baptism was to take place with the same ceremonial as that adopted for Philip IV.; and the font in which the famous St. Domingo de Guzman was baptised, was to be employed. All the soldiers who were acting as sentinels at the palace on the day of the birth, were, in accordance with an ancient custom, to receive their discharge from the army. A household had been formed for the Prince, and the Marquisa Malpica and the Marquis de Alencas had been placed at the head of it. It was reported that on the occasion of the baptism an amnesty to political offenders would be proclaimed. The telegraphic despatch which the Pope sent to the Queen in reply to the announcement of the Prince's birth was, it is said, couched in the most affectionate terms, and the Emperors of Austria and the French had charged their representatives to express their warmest congratulations to her Majesty. The Queen and the Prince continued in the most satisfactory state.

PRUSSIA.

The commercial disasters at Hamburg, among the oldest and best houses in that city, have a disastrous re-action in Prussia. A Royal decree has suspended all restrictions in the rate of interest for three months; but this measure of the Government will not be sufficient to check the progress of the crisis, which affects not only the commerce of Berlin, but also the large manufacturing establishments of Gortitz, Guben, Dantzic, &c. An attempt was made to found a discount company, for which purpose the principal commercial men of the capital assembled. The meeting was attended by MM. Magnus, Keichenheim, and other bankers, but it broke up without attempting anything in face of the difficulties which presented themselves.

RUSSIA.

PRINCE GORTSCHAKOFF has addressed the following note to M. Bouteneff, the Russian Minister at Constantinople:—

"I have received your despatch enclosing the circular which the Ottoman Government has lately issued to its representatives at the courts of the governments that signed the Treaty of Paris, and which has been officially communicated to you by Aali Pacha. We deem it useless to enter upon a controversy with the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs; or else we should have questioned his assertions with regard to the consultations of the Principalities, and especially the phrase sovereignty, which occurs in his letter, and which can nowise be applicable to the relations between those provinces and the Sublime Porte. We shall leave the communication unanswered, and if Aali Pacha again speaks to your Excellency about it, you will take care to tell him that we refer him to the purport of our circular of the 22nd of October."

We read in a St. Petersburg letter of the 25th ult., as follows:—"Prince Gortschakoff, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has within the last few days had several conferences with Lord Wodehouse and the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires. The cabinets of London and Vienna have made fresh representations against the closing of a certain number of ports in the Black Sea, and it is on that question that these conferences have been held. Prince Gortschakoff has recently sent fresh instructions to the Russian representatives at the courts of the Powers who signed the treaty of Paris—instructions which are drawn up in the most conciliatory terms, and which, it is hoped, will be of a nature to satisfy those Powers."

It is decreed in favour of Russian serfs that they are free to marry without the assent of their proprietors. Corporal chastisement is made to depend on a sort of tribunal, and they are not to be forcibly removed from one village to another.

The St. Petersburg papers state that the Russian reserve of the army has been reduced by 3,000 officers and 200,000 men.

ITALY.

So many assassinations have recently taken place at Ancona that it is contemplated to proclaim the state of siege again.

The Pope, on the receipt of the news that the Queen of Spain had been delivered of a Prince, sent his apostolical benediction by telegraph!

Orders have been given to proceed with the trials of the English prisoners at Salerno immediately, the necessary legal papers having arrived from Genoa.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The commission of the Four Powers signed, on the 5th inst., at Constantinople, the final act of the ratification of the Russian frontier in Asia.

Accounts from Constantinople mention that a reconciliation of some kind has taken place between M. Thouvenel and Redschid Pacha. If this be the case, it may facilitate the new plan of arrangement attributed to the French Government with respect to the Danubian Principalities.

A telegram from Marseilles says that the Divan of Moldo-Wallachia have made a formal statement to the Sultan of their wish to be united; but add, they will withdraw the request, if the Congress of Paris should refuse to let a foreign prince rule over them. The "Times" Paris correspondent makes a directly opposite statement.

AMERICA.

The news of the commercial distress in Europe has had a depressing effect on the American markets. Money is abundant.

The President is said to be determined to break up Walker's expedition. He is equally resolved on the chastisement of the Mormons. The force at present on its road will go into winter quarters in Utah, and be prepared to take the field early in the spring, when it will be joined by an efficient force.

Sir William Gore Ouseley has had several interviews with Lord Napier. It was stated that he would spend the winter at Washington.

Mexico is reported to be in a distracted state, and a general revolution was feared.

AUSTRALIA.

VICTORIA is still receiving more immigrants than it can readily absorb. It is calculated that at least 30,000 have been added to its population during the past year; and immigrants are still pouring in at the rate of 1,000 a week. The Government has provided temporary work for a large number of those who were on the very verge of destitution, and others have been absorbed by private industrial enterprise.

The antipathy between the white population of Victoria and the Chinese continues unabated. At the gold fields and elsewhere collisions occasionally occur; and it is believed that there would be a general rising of the Europeans for the expulsion of the obnoxious race but for the pro-pect of speedy legislation upon the subject. A bill has passed a second reading in the House of Assembly, the principle of which is to make the Chinese pay a fee of £1 each for liberty to reside in Victoria.

The intelligence from the various gold fields has generally been of a favourable character. The total quantity of gold shipped during the year, inclusive of shipments to Sydney and the neighbouring colonies, has been 2,175,143 oz., or 90 tons, 2 cw., 2 qrs., 11 lbs., 9 oz., which, at 80s. per oz., yields the value of £8,700,564.

THE ENGLISH PRISONERS AT SALERNO.

OUR Acting Consul at Naples and Mr. Parks, the father of one of the English engineers imprisoned by the Neapolitan Government, have at length obtained permission to visit them. Parks gave his father a very dismal account of their treatment in prison. He says:—

"On arriving at Naples, all, excepting ourselves, were handcuffed, and were taken to prison. We were taken into our cell and stripped naked, whilst other prisoners were looking through the iron bars which separated them from us, laughing and jingling at our exposure. I was enraged and disgusted with the Government which could permit such indignities. We were examined and cross-examined with regard to the letter or letters on which the accusation is based, till my mind was in an awful state of confusion. When they saw that nothing could be made out of us, they led us round chambers and cells fearful to look upon, and said that if any guilt was proved against us, we should be put in there. Finally, we were confined in a separate cell, so damp and dark, that God knows how we kept our health—the only window that there was was high up in the wall. During the hot summer weather the stench was insufferable, and we were compelled to pay for the removal of filth every night. Our prison fare has been a soup that we could not drink, bread so hard as to be indigestible, and beans; in fact, we were compelled to seek for money for our support, and it was supplied from various sources, though, on several occasions, it was rejected by the authorities. At our earnest entreats, we were put into another cell; and at length we were moved down to Salerno to await our trial. We were handcuffed, and that severely, and bound by ropes round the arms so tightly to each other that our flesh was black and blue for five days after."

Watt (the other prisoner), who is a strong man, with much feeling, was very indignant. He himself confesses that in his fury he attempted his life with his razor on arriving in his cell. Blood flowed from the wound, and Parks, who was in a nervous state, fell to the ground in a swoon. The captain of the *Capitani* wrested the razor from his hand, and thus saved him. "With regard to the health of the two engineers," says Mr. Parks, "though it would be what might be called generally good, I see that it has suffered a great shock. My son is not what he was; he has been bled in consequence of his nervous sensitiveness, and the doctor of the Bey of Tunis, who was a prisoner, said that, had it not been done, his life would have been sacrificed."

The Rev. Mr. Pugh's report, it will be remembered, was less full, and more favourable; but the room in which he saw the prisoners is described as "a comfortable parlour in comparison with what they had occupied in the Vicaria in Naples." His position, too, was peculiar and delicate. He announced that he went as a priest, and from honour abstained from many questions, declaring that it was not his object to increase the unpleasantness between the two Governments.

FINANCIAL CRISIS AT HAMBURG.

A GREAT financial crisis reigns at Hamburg. Many important houses have given way, carrying with them a host of little ones; and the people generally are in consternation. The Senate proposed to relieve the commercial pressure by the erection of a new bank. The Assembly of Burgesses rejected this proposal, the majority proposing a forced circulation of notes for a limited period. This proposition, however, was abandoned; and the Senate and the Burgesses came to this understanding:—A sum of 15,000,000 mares banco (about 28,000,000 francs) to be granted to the Bank of Discount; and the Treasury to deposit at the Bank an amount of 5,000,000 in shares of the railway from Berlin to Hamburg, and from Hamburg to Bergdorf, both being the property of the State. The Bank to open with the Treasury an account current for these shares, and immediately to grant discounts to the extent of 5,000,000 mares banco (equivalent to 9,000,000 francs). The State, moreover, was in negotiation for 10,000,000 mares banco, in silver, to be also paid over to the Bank in the course of this week, and made applicable to the purposes of discount.

THE EXPLOSION AT MAYENCE.—The sentry at the Mayence magazine, which exploded recently, survives, with the loss of a leg. Though a mere lad, his hair is now as white as snow, and he is an idiot. The fright is said to have deprived many persons of their senses. "I looked," says a correspondent, "into an empty school for the poor: there were the slates, the pencils, clothes of the children suddenly left; the red significant puddle, the sundered ceiling, and the showers of stones."

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS IN FRANCE.—The Paris "Presse" has been suspended for two months, in consequence of an article in which the author says, that "for some months past there has been a vague emotion universally felt in the public mind," and adds, "This is evidently the hour for decisive resolutions. The problems which pre-occupy the political world simplify themselves—parties draw closer together, and reckon their numbers—it appears as if we had all heard, from one end of Europe to the other, a voice calling us to arise and march! Ought we, always living on our reminiscences and our regrets, to sink deeper and deeper in our dejection? Ought the revolutionary party to imitate the Legitimists, whose abstention has reduced to nullity?"

WELL-BRED BRIGANDS.—A band of brigands is reported to have existed in Wallachia, many of the members of which moved in good society, and availed themselves of their entrée into "the best saloons" to mark down valuables and furnish information as to the best means of getting at them. The ex Russian Major Dubuisson, the chief of the band, was decorated with several orders. One of the brigands, being displeased with the unfair distribution of some plunder, confessed, and a number of his comrades were apprehended and bastinadoed until they confessed where certain articles of plate were secreted.

POOR DOG TRAY IN BERLIN.—The police of Berlin lately discovered a slaughter-house in which dogs were killed for the purpose of sale as butchers' meat. Suspensions of the existence of such an establishment had for some time been excited in consequence of the disappearance of great numbers of dogs of large size.

HOW OBLIGING!—"Galignani" says—"We believe we can state that the Emperor of the French has been so struck by the courage and devotedness displayed by the King of Portugal during the whole of the visitation of the yellow fever, that his Majesty has charged Count Walewski, Minister of Foreign Affairs, to transmit to the King, through Baron de Paiva, Portuguese Minister, the expression of his sincere admiration."

AN EXTRAORDINARY TRIAL.—An old man, with the singular name of Vautour, owner of immense house property in Paris, and since whose death all householders who let apartments are designated under the genus "Vautur," dying, aged eighty-two, had a notion to get himself embalmed; and an Italian, Falconi, undertook the job. His heir would not pay the 2,000 francs demanded for making a mummy of the defunct Vautour, and the cost of the process of mummification had to be decided at law. Much Egyptian lore was in request, and finally 1,000 francs were awarded for stuffing the bird of prey.

THE ASSASSINATION OF PRINCE GAGARIN.—The murder of Prince Gagarin is thus described:—Prince Dedesch Kiliane got angry with Prince Gagarin, Governor General of Kontaro and Mingrelia, and drew a brace of pistols, with one of which he shot a clerk who rushed to the rescue, and then with a poisoned stabbard the Prince three times, rushed off to his own house, and with two servants defended it against the guard sent to arrest him. The soldiers, after being fired at several times by the three men, forced their way into the house, but Dedesch continued to resist until one of the soldiers pinned him to the wall with his bayonet. This, however, did not kill him, and he was secured.

THE EPIDEMIC AT LISBON is subsiding, and there is a sensible improvement in the sanitary condition of the inhabitants.

IMPORTANT APPOINTMENTS.—Sir Gaspard Le Marchant, at present Governor of Nova Scotia, will succeed Sir W. R. Reid as Governor of Malta. Sir Gaspard will be replaced at Halifax by Lord Mulgrave, who by this appointment vacates his seat for Scarborough. The Earl of Mulgrave's appointment will deprive Mr. Hayter of a zealous and assiduous coadjutor in carrying on the political duties of his office. He will henceforward be assisted by Mr. Brand, one of the Lords of the Treasury. Mr. Spencer Ponsonby is appointed to the office of controller of the Lord Chamberlain's department. Mr. Vilters Lister, of the Foreign Office, succeeds Mr. Ponsonby as Private Secretary to Lord Clarendon.

SHOCKING INHUMANITY.—A young lady arrived at Folkestone by train from London on Saturday, helpless and speechless. She had been placed in the carriage at that state at London Bridge, as was ascertained from the guard, by some persons who gave him a sovereign to procure any refreshment she might require upon the journey. She was taken on board the Boulogne boat by one of the harbour policemen under the direction, we understand, of the harbour-master, and placed in the ladies' cabin; but she never spoke nor moved during the passage. On the arrival of the boat at Boulogne, she was taken on shore and carried to the Hotel de Paris. An English surgeon was summoned, who believed her dying, and truly, for she gradually sank and expired on Sunday night. On undoing a large label was found fastened to her dress, as if she were a bale of goods, and in her purse, which contained £7 (and which was also fastened to her dress), was a piece of paper, affording the only clue as to who or where she was, and her destination. From this it seemed that she had been a governess somewhere in London, that her salary was paid up to the 6th of December, and that she was going to her brother-in-law in Austria. On the discovery a telegraphic despatch was immediately sent to her friends, who arrived too late for her to recognise them.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

AN extra mail from India has arrived, bringing intelligence from Calcutta to the 1st of November, and from Madras to the 6th.

LUCKNOW.

The position of Havelock's force at Lucknow continued unchanged. The convoys of provisions are stated to have reached the place in safety. General Outram was said to have been wounded.

Sir Colin Campbell and Staff left Raneegunge on the 28th of October for Cawnpore, where it was expected they would arrive on the 2nd of November. The Commander-in-Chief was to march upon Lucknow with a head of about 4,000 infantry and 800 cavalry.

Colonel Greathed's column, after re-occupying Mynpoorie, for the Rajah to fight, and recovering much property and loot and a large treasure, reached Cawnpore on the 26th.

Beyond this there is little intelligence from Lucknow. Some reports of the force there beleaguered, that the old device of enclosing the city has been of necessity abandoned. The only message received at Calcutta in the last week was written on a piece of paper three inches square, and enclosed by a device it may be prudent as yet to keep private. The message reported are somewhat discouraging. Sir James Outram's force has been terribly reduced. It will be remembered that about the 25th of September he and General Havelock forced their way into the Residency, and rescued the garrison. This feat was accomplished by pressing on through great small bazaars, knots of houses, and other enclosed places. The enemy fought as Asiatics always fight behind stone walls. The bullets rained upon the advancing force, and that single movement cost 160 men. Sixteen officers of the 90th were killed or placed hors de combat, and almost all the superior officers of the 5th Fusiliers. There was some hard fighting before the relieving force reached the enclosures, and the total number of soldiers disabled cannot be fixed at less than 700. The force, therefore, even after its junction with the garrison already in the Residency, cannot be more than 1,400 strong, and this small party must be embarrassed by the care of sick and wounded, women and children, to a number in excess of its own.

There were besides some 500 men at the Alumbagh, with a great army of camp-followers, but they were believed to be without the means of communicating with the Residency. Native rumours all point to one point, that General Outram, during the second week in October, attacked the large building, probably one of the palaces, and was driven back with further loss of life.

"It is nearly certain," says the Calcutta correspondent of the "Times," "that there are 70,000 men, sepoy and armed retainers, around and in Lucknow. Every landowner in Southern Oude, except one, is in arms, to see what he can obtain in the great scramble."

Nevertheless, there is no cause for despondency. Sir James Outram could hold out till the 10th of November, and by the 6th or 7th Sir Colin Campbell would be before Lucknow. With his little army of 5,000 men, and a very heavy train of artillery, he will pick up the force at Alumbagh, press on to Lucknow, and commence the destruction of the city. It is a lath and plaster place, and the heavy guns would make a path for him without so terrible a loss of European life.

It is reported that Man Singh, the great landholder of Southern Oude, has repented him of his treachery. This is the scoundrel who promised General Havelock aid if he would advance, and then attacked him. He now promises, if the British will spare his life and his estates, to turn round once more.

DELHI.

The life of the King of Delhi is to be spared; for the officer who arrested him, in violation of orders, gave him a pledge to that effect. "The murder is disastrous; for the King deliberately ordered the murder of forty-eight English women and children, and his exemption from punishment will be interpreted by every native into fear. They will only laugh at the story of the pledge as an invention to conceal the inability of the Government to carry out its will. It seems indeed somewhat Quixotic to say that a police officer can save a murderer by promising his life."

Some further incidents of the siege have come to light, and among them one which has driven every European, except the higher officials, almost frantic. The sepoys took all the wounded Europeans they could catch during the siege, and burnt them alive. The charred bodies, tied to stakes, were found by the stormers, with the Queen's buttons still recognisable.

It appears to be proved that there was at least one European at Delhi who lent aid to the mutineers. Many letters report the capture of an Englishman in the dress of a native officer. He was a sergeant-major of the 28th Native Infantry, and formerly an artilleryman. He rendered, it is said, important services to the besieged, and was created a general of artillery. He has not been executed; and there is some indisposition to believe in his guilt. It is in his favour that a Portuguese drummer, Antonio Seraphim, who was kept to play to the General, and who escaped at a very late period of the siege, does not accuse him, but considers him rather a prisoner. Four Europeans at Moradabad turned Mussulmans to preserve their lives. These five appear to be the only Christians about whose conduct during the rebellion there is even a suspicion.

THE REBEL FUGITIVES.

Agra, as we have before reported, is safe, the defeated rebels moving towards Culpoe. Jaunpore and Goruckpore, however, are in a frightful condition, great bands of ruffians marching everywhere and committing horrible atrocities. On the 3rd of October one band, about 1,200 strong, was overtaken by Jung Bahadur's Gorkhas in Jaunpore. The brave little men, with their short curved knives, dashed at the foe like tiger-cubs, closed, slashed away, and in ten minutes were driving them in headlong rout. The insurgents left 250 dead on the field. Both Gorkhas and Sikhs attack any odds with a contempt the result proves to be well deserved.

The force of about 1,200 from Delhi, under Brigadier Showers, occupied Doodie on the 15th of October, taking six guns, and then, being joined by Cashmere troops, took possession of Junjgur, with twenty-one guns and much ammunition. The Nawab surrendered himself. On the 20th, they seized Kanwood, cutting off 400 of the Nawab's troops, and taking 100 lbs. of treasure.

GENERAL CONDITION OF AFFAIRS.

In Bengal the insurrection is dying out, and in fact there are no more troops to revolt, except the 73rd and the Shekawattie battalions. The mutineers are all pressing northwards, and the dacoit bands in the Sate valley are skulking out of the way of the Europeans in pur-suit. Peace is still quiet, and Gya in our hands. The reverses excitement manifested by the Sathals has been allayed. The revenue is paid throughout Banah, the great test of Indian order. This subsidence is owing simply to the arrival of troops, who are pouring in at the rate of 2,000 a week. The men as they come in are sent to Raneegunge, Barrackpore, or dilapidated buildings in Calcutta, and forwarded gradually to the north-west. Hundreds of carts are being constructed for their transport, and all along the Teak Road, Bengal, may be said to be in requisition. Porters and carts are pressed everywhere.

The remainder of the 32nd have delivered up their arms, and are now at Barrackpore. That station is now occupied by part of the 34th, part of the 19th, the 2nd Grenadiers, the 70th, and the 43rd Native Infantry. This great force, 3,000 men in all, is, though disarmed, dangerous, and is watched by a wing of H. M.'s 29th, 35th or H. M.'s 35th, 100 sailors, and some Royal Artillery. Calcutta is loud in complaint that 1,500 men should be kept idle rather than slaughter 3,000 mutineers. The complaint is a little unjust, even if these regiments have deserved death, and one would prefer a milder doom.

HIGHLANDERS IN INDIA.

An extraordinary effect seems to have been produced on the native mind by the appearance of the Highlanders. "At first," says a correspondent of the "Times," "they took them for women sent out to avenge the massacre of the ladies at Cawnpore. The battle of Omdah disabled them of that idea, and the Highlanders were pronounced 'patriotic' and 'brave.' Still they were a puzzle. The sepoys could understand the existence of devils, but could not comprehend why they should be worshipped. At last the truth came out. The devils were barelegged in order more conveniently to break sepoys across their knees. A sepoy of the 73rd

also happened to be in Calcutta on their arrival, reported on his return to his regiment that the English were sending out monsters, with smoke elephants, faces covered with hair like wild beasts, and blood-red eyes. The Highlanders are, in truth, a singular contrast to the people of the country. On the arrival of the 42nd, a Sircar or Bengalee clerk was ordered to go on board the vessel. A Highlander stepped up to him, and looked at him long and curiously. Then catching him by the wrist, he held him above his head, exclaiming, with a chuckle of amusement, "Say, be that the things we're to see 't w' t'?" "I need scarcely say that the Sircar is very different from a Bengalee, being usually taller than an Englishman, though he weighs less."

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

From Rewah we hear the arrival of troops at Kutta Pass put every-thing at Rewah into the political agent's hands. The Sirdars submitted, and gave up the prisoners whom they had forcibly released. The Rajah expressed extreme regret, and quiet was restored. Another account says—Lieutenant Osborne, at Rewah, has been saved by the advance of a force from Mirzapore.

An agent of Nena Sahib has put himself at the head of the insurgents of the Gwalior Contingent, and it is thought probable that he may form a junction with the Dinapore mutineers at Banda, or that he may march west to Calpee. The Gwalior mutineers left Gwalior on the 15th or 16th of October, with a siege train, field guns, and much ammunition, and have been heard of thirty-six miles from Gwalior.

Mr. Barton, the political agent at Lucknow, has been badly murdered, with his two sons, by the Rajah's troops. The Rajah is said not to have been concerned in the act.

The Jodhpore mutineers have gone towards Saubhar Lake. The Gwalior mutineers were fought at Agra, on the 10th, and have fled towards Rajpootana.

IRELAND.

STATE OF TIPPERARY.—The state of the North Riding of Tipperary is so alarming, that the magistrates have called for 244 extra men of the police force, though this will entail additional taxation to the extent of 33d. in the pound. Twenty men above the usual number have been stationed at Longmore, the parish in which Mr. Ellis was murdered; but there does not seem to be any chance of the murderers being discovered, though several persons have been arrested and committed to prison.

THE ORANGE MEN AND THE PREMIER.—The magistrates of Farnborough, summoned by Lord Erne, have held a meeting for the purpose of protesting against the proposal of Chancellor Brady, that in future no persons shall be admitted to the magisterial bench who shall be connected with the Orange Society. The meeting was private, and it was resolved that the result should not be made public till after the receipt of the answer of Lord Palmerston to the remonstrance addressed to him. That answer is of the briefest possible kind, being simply as follows:—"Downing Street, November 21. My Lord,—I am desired by Lord Palmerston to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst., and of the memorial which accompanied it. I remain, my Lord, your Lordship's obedient servant, G. G. BARRINGTON.—The Earl of Erne, &c."

SCOTLAND.

DESTITUTION IN THE SHETLAND ISLES.—The Shetland Islanders have applied for assistance on behalf of no less than 209 persons deprived of their natural supports by the storms that have swept over their ungenial soil. Seventy-one persons have been drowned within a comparatively short period of time, leaving widows, children, parents, and other helpless persons, to the charity of their fellow-men.

STAYED TO DEATH.—Two men, Mackay (who was deaf and dumb), and Macdonald, left their homes at Rogart, Sutherlandshire, for the purpose of attending a funeral. The funeral procession, which consisted of not more than twenty individuals, had to travel, during the fierceness of a severe storm, a distance of from ten to twelve miles, over a trackless waste, four men, as is customary on such occasions, taking by turns the coffin on their shoulders. After the ceremony was over, they returned homewards, the storm still continuing with increased violence, amidst a hurricane of wind, rain, and snow. Mackay and Macdonald had to go through a large moor, where the former soon found himself rapidly giving way, through hunger and fatigue. Macdonald, poor fellow, unable to do much, did all he could to keep up his starving companion, but in vain. He was carried to the nearest house, where he soon after expired. Macdonald had not gone much further, in company with a young man, when he also gave up. His young companion thereupon nobly took him on his back, and endeavoured to carry him to the first house, which was at a considerable distance, but, being himself also worn out with hunger and fatigue, he was unable to carry out his generous purpose. Leaving poor Macdonald lying on the moor, he hurried, as fast as he could, to a distant dwelling, where he obtained succour, but on arriving at the spot where Macdonald was left, it was found that he had died.

THE PROVINCES.

COLLIERY STRIKE IN SOUTH WALES.—The colliery proprietors and ironmasters of the Aberdare district lately gave notice of a reduction of from 10 to 20 per cent. in the wages of their men; the men, some thousands in number, resented, and are now on strike. At the Aberdare Ironworks, all the colliers, about 900, are on strike. At the G-dley works the colliers on strike are about 900. At the Blaengwair from 800 to 900 men are out of employ; and at the Cymmer tract furnaces work is also suspended. The Merthyr colliers have acceded to the terms proposed by the masters. The Rhondda Valley men, however, have also struck work.

FARMERS COMMITTED FOR ROBBERY.—John Fækes and William Wannon, two farmers, have been committed at Carlisle, on a charge of stealing £9 from the person of Jacob Skelton, a poultry dealer. The prosecutor stated that the prisoners and he had been drinking together in a public-house at Crosbie. On the way home they quarrelled with him, and one knocked him down and the other rifled his pockets. The solicitor for the prisoners urged that the prosecutor himself had been convicted for stealing.

DARING ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE FROM JAIL.—Amos Jacques was sentenced to a year's imprisonment in Derby County Jail for housebreaking; and a short time ago he was placed in the refractory cell, whence he determined to escape. Breaking through a portion of a bell crank, he serried the mortar from the brickwork in the roof of the cell (at a corner), and at length made an aperture big enough to pass his body through. To avoid detection while this operation was going on, he smeared a piece of brown paper with lime-juice, and pasted it over the hole with his gaiter. All being at length prepared Jacques got through to the roof, and by means of his sheets quietly let himself down into the yard. Meanwhile, his scheme was discovered. After a long search, the officers found him saw something like a cat moving along the gutter of what is called the wheel-house over the workshops. Ascending the building, they discovered that the suspicious-looking cat was the crown of Jacques's head, which was seen elevated above the parapet as he moved along the gutter. In order to get to this position, he must have scaled several walls ten or eleven feet high, and armed with chains of iron. The only remaining obstacle to his escape was the boundary wall, thirty feet high; how he meant to overcome this difficulty is matter of conjecture.

RAILWAY STATION BURNED.—The Bicester Lane Station on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, about four miles and a quarter from Southport, has been totally destroyed by fire. Besides the booking-office, &c., there was a residence for the station-master, who, with his wife and three children, had a very narrow escape, their lives being in considerable danger. Not a vestige of the books or the furniture was saved.

RE-OPENING OF THE WOLVERHAMPTON AND STAFFORDSHIRE BANK.—The following notice was recently issued by the directors of this bank:—"Wolverhampton, Dec. 4, 1857.—The directors have much pleasure in stating that the bank will be open on and after Tuesday morning next for the payment of the notes of the bank; and the directors hope in a few days to be able to announce the opening of the bank for general business."

A SQUABBLE IN THE CHURCH.—The incumbent of Blythmore has given his curate, Mr. Davis, six months' notice to quit, and inhibition him from preaching in the church, in consequence of his having refused to administer the sacrament to another clergyman, as we before reported. The curate says the incumbent is doing to him what he himself has done to a bishop, and the subaltern tells his superior plainly that he shall pay no attention to notice or inhibition. The Lord Bishop of St. Asaph says he is the only man to discuss a curate, and that until he knows all about the dispute he shall not withdraw the benefit, as requested.

SHORT TIME IN PRESTON.—The inhabitants of Preston generally seem to regard the present commercial crisis as having reached its climax, and expect a return to prosperity. Indications of this reaction are already showing themselves in the resumption of full time at several manufacturing establishments.

THE ASHOVER MURDERER.—The police believe that they have detected a clue to the murder of Mr. James Simpson, of Ashover. A notorious convict named Richard Parford, alias Ginger Dick, who has been banished from some six years, is suspected. The police have tracked him through Gloucester to the West Riding of Yorkshire. He was at Oley statute fair on Saturday week, and visited a farmer named Daves on a road home to Lundy, and plundered him of £3. A reward of £100 has been offered for the apprehension of Mr. Simpson's murderer.

SMITH FIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.

CHRISTMAS is just. After our great annual festival, and the Smith Field show is the pleasant interlude highly suggestive of and preparatory to the grand pageant. It is as we see best in all its glory, pork in its adipose perfection, and meat in its most delicious excellence. Having seen that, we have no more but to take care to have it all cooked as quickly as possible, and eaten with a relish as sharpened by our northern climate, and exulted by the generous hospitality which makes "the compliments of the season" with an overflowing abundance of cheer.

Those marches rapidly, and the Smithfield Show bravely keeps up to the pace. We were in London when it had in prospect like the Black and White, which, notwithstanding its name, is a handsome and frequently used undergarment for a coat of fat, and when one would as soon have thought of eating a colossal bishop as of swallowing any portion of the monstrous who for ed the animal wonders of the great three days' festival of the Portman Bazaar. But now we have changed all that; the vast show-room is constantly refreshed by a pleasant current of air, the animals move about, fresh, airy, and comfortable; and when hungry eat as heartily as they would at home at their own stalls in the country.

It was pronounced of the show held this week—first, that it was the largest show ever exhibited; second, that it was richer in Devons and Sussexes than any previous show; and, thirdly, that it was on a more liberal scale with regard to classification and premiums than had ever previously been attempted.

The comparatively small compact Devons, with their thoroughbred heads, legs like a rock, and deep strawberry hide, were the favourites. That which gained the prize in this class was a splendid animal, the property of Mr. O'Brien, of Barnum Sutton, Norfolk, and bred by a lady. In Devons of greater size the Earl of Leicester obtained the silver medal for a large and powerful beast, not however remarkable for symmetry, or that perfect roundness of horn which modern breeders have established to be the perfection of stall-feeding. In the third sub-class of Devons (heifers) the Prince Consort carries off the principal prize.

Next to the graceful little Devons come the ponderous Herefords. These animals are great for beef, but require a rich pasture, and would starve on the light soils upon which the Devons continue to keep their sober red coats always tight and glossy. They are comparatively high in bone, although certainly not low in flesh; but, with all the care of the skillful feeder, they look lumpy, and, as an artist would say, out of drawing. Mr. Heath, of Sudham Hall, got the silver medal in this class for a remarkably fine animal. In aged Herefords the judges "commended" three specimens, but only one obtained a prize, namely, a four-and-a-half year old steer of Mr. Shaw, of Hunsbury Hill, Northampton, to whom was awarded the silver medal.

Turning to the great pleid short-horns, so leviathan in form and so sympathetic in temperament, there is nothing remarkable to notice, except that to this class fell the gold medal of the year. The winner is Mr. Edmund Wortley, of Ridlington (Rutland), a gentleman who had never exhibited before, but who, no doubt, after such a famous start, will henceforth be an annual competitor. His fine animal was quite surrounded by the connoisseurs, and had he not been of the most amiable of tempers, must have gone mad with all the punching, and pulling about, and poking, which he was momentarily obliged to undergo. This punching and poking is considered the sure sign of an *habitué*, and by a discreet use of it, excellent agricultural reputations are established on an exceedingly flimsy foundation.

The gold medal, for the best heifer or cow in any of the classes, was awarded to Lord Leveney.

The new classes, the Sussex breed was the best represented in numbers, and for quality a fair share of the prizes was carried away. The Scotch may also be called new from the new mode of classification, but all through in these rough Highlanders there is the usual internal excellence under the ordinary rough and shaggy covering. Amongst them was a remarkable animal, a silver medalist, bred by the Duke of Beaufort, and which narrowly escaped obtaining the Baker Street blue ribbon. We have to notice the existence of a class for Irish breeds, and to express our regret that the agriculturists of the sister-country were not enterprising enough to provide any entries.

The sheep, both long and short-woolled, were exceedingly well represented; but the gem of this department was the Duke of Richmond's pen of South Downs, which most worthily obtained the gold medal. Another gold medal, for long-woolled sheep, was awarded to Lord Berners. The whole of the sheep classes were exceedingly full, and in variety sufficient to gratify every taste.

Of the pigs, all we shall say is that they must be seen and heard to be properly appreciated. Their forms were as cylindrical and their snouts as invisible as ever, but the function of the latter was never kept in more musical or constant exercise. Lord Radnor's Coleshill were again missing from this department, but their absence is well supplied, and in some of the younger specimens a precocity of corpulence is obtained which is highly creditable, not only to the skill of the master but the aptitude of the pupil.

We have now gone hastily through the different classes, and have only to add that the arrangements, which show an annual improvement, were never so good as this year—either for space or ventilation; the animals, although more numerous than ever, having in every class the most perfect accommodation.

SPECIAL EVENING SERVICES AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY.—The Dean and Chapter have determined to open the nave of Westminster Abbey on Sunday evenings, from Sunday, January 3, for a series of special services, which are to commence at seven o'clock. It is not known whether the Dean and Canons will officiate, or apply to well-known popular preachers to take the duty, as at Exeter Hall. It may be remembered that there were evening services in the Abbey in 1851, at the time of the Great Exhibition.

SPIELFELDS WEAVERS' BREAD FUND.—The distress existing in Spitalfields has called into existence a fund, which we beg to recommend to charitable people. The subscriptions now amount to about £900; but there are at the present time upwards of 3,000 looms unemployed, involving at least 8,000 persons in great destitution. The treasurers are—Messrs. Kemp, Stone, and Co., Spinal Square.

CRYSTAL PALACE COMPANY.—The report of the select committee appointed to consider the means brought forward for the reduction of the capital of the Crystal Palace Company is in favour of the creation of a six per cent. debenture stock, to the extent of £250,000, and, as the next best plan, of a guarantee fund. They suggest the following plan for the reduction of capital:—1. An unrestricted admission for life to be granted on the surrender of ten ordinary or eight preference shares, or the payment of £50. 2. Life admissions; on all days when the admission is under 5s., and on payment of half the price when above 5s., for four ordinary or three preference shares, or payment of £20. 3. Family life tickets; sold or to the same conditions as No. 2, to be had on terms similar to No. 1. 4. Life tickets for admission on 1s. days only, for two shares or £10. 5. An unrestricted season ticket for one year, for one share, or £5. The committee also recommended a scheme of Mr. Fuller's for a "Crystal Palace Art Union," for raising £150,000 to 200,000 to be distributed in prizes of art, science, and literature; the remaining £50,000 to be paid to the Crystal Palace Company as rent of premises. The report, in conclusion, recommends the division of duties among the directors, by the appointment of committees of their own body, for the immediate superintendence of the various branches of the affairs of the company; the property of a reduction in the price of season-tickets, in the event of three or more of such tickets being taken by members of the same family; and the cultivation for sale of plants, trees, flowers, &c.

REIDPATH AND THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY.—Mr. Commissioner Goshorn, of the Bankruptcy Court, has rejected the claim of the Great Northern Railway Company to prove against the estate of Reidpath for the sum of £221,000, although the company have paid all the other bond holders in full, because, the Commissioner says, other creditors might come in, and the money embezzled or obtained by fraud cannot be treated as a debt.

THE BRITISH BANK.—It appears that the promises made by shareholders of this bank at present amount to about £100,000 towards the £180,000 required. The assignees expect £150 per share from each person—as a general rule, apparently, liable to exceptions—and they make inquiries into the real position of each shareholder. Those who pay a proper amount will get a discharge freeing them from further claims; those who do not volunteer to pay, and yet have money, will be made to pay. The assignees have a painful task to perform, but they are making the best of it for all parties.

REFORM DEMONSTRATION.—A great Reform meeting was held on Monday last at St. Paul's for the purpose of adopting certain resolutions in favour of Parliamentary Reform. The mayor (Mr. R. Jackson) presided.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA AT PRESBURG.

DURING the Emperor of Austria's recent visit to Hungary, the various towns vied with each other as to which should most distinguish itself by the appropriateness of the presents offered to the Emperor by the deputations that waited upon him. At Presburg he was presented with several curiously and beautifully-decorated casks of choice wine, some being of the vintage of the very year in which he was born. Specimens of linens and carpets, and baskets full of the rarest fruits, were also offered to him. Neusohl, a mining town, presented a chisel, hammer, and mallet of silver; the manufactory of glass at Hermannstadt gave a beautiful vase, and a paper-mill at the same place a splendid album. Looney showed its loyalty by offering for the Emperor's acceptance two large cups of the finest flint glass; the one was ornamented with the enameled portraits of their Majesties, and the other with the bust of the Emperor in bas-relief. The cover of the cup last mentioned represents the crown of St. Stephen. The free city of Bising gave a barrel of essence (Auszueh) wine, and a barrel of table wine; the free city of Modern half a barrel of wine of the year 1830 (the year of the Emperor's birth); and the free city of St. George half a barrel of the Ausbruch made in the neighbourhood, which is not much inferior to the Imperial Tokay. The community of Bur St. George gave a piece of homespun linen.

Our engraving refers to the presents which were offered to the Emperor at Presburg, in the very pretty pavilion that had been erected for his reception. His sojourn here was one round of amusement from morning to night. The Emperor mingled with the people in their sports, and on one occasion, while watching the various groups firing at targets, some had shots excited his impatience, and taking up a rifle, at the very first shot he put a bullet into the bull's-eye. Of an evening he occasionally visited the different dancing places, where he used to be received with vociferous cheering.

FINANCIAL INTRIGUES.

ON the morning of the 12th of November, when, owing to the failure of the Glasgow banks and other circumstances, alarm was universally felt, and the Bank of England, in their endeavours to meet the full requirements of every applicant, were known to have allowed their reserve to fall too low, a sudden demand was made by a leading discount house for accommodation to the extent of half a million. The moment an affirmative answer was obtained from the governors the requirement was raised from £500,000 to £700,000; and as soon as this amended request was granted it was then augmented to £900,000. That also was complied with. Meanwhile, however, the partner by whom these applications were made is understood to have proceeded to a leading banker among the private firms in Lombard Street, and to have informed him that he had been to the Bank of England in vain, and could get no advances whatever. Of course, this was calculated to add greatly to the distrust already prevalent, and its effects would have spread much further had not the banker subsequently ascertained that the representation had been entirely erroneous. In the afternoon the Government letter came down to the City, and there the matter terminated; but as it was generally alleged that the discount house in question had had an interview with the Government shortly before the measure was announced, and that, moreover, instead of acting with those who had endeavoured to allay panic and to inspire confidence in the working of the act, they had taken opportunities to create a belief that nothing but its suspension would prevent ruin, a very general impression was created that the proceeding adopted had not been altogether unpremeditated. In any case they could not clear themselves from grave reproach. If the £900,000 was absolutely necessary to them at that particular moment, the conclusion is plain that they had so managed their business as to render themselves liable for such a sum at call without being properly prepared to meet it.

THE LEVIATHAN.

THE Leviathan is progressing steadily, but still very slowly, into the water, exhibiting from time to time the same caprices which have hitherto distinguished the monster. Sometimes all appliances have to be exerted for hours ere she bides an inch; on other occasions, and without any particular reason, she moves several feet at a jump. A remarkable instance of this occurred on Tuesday. The men were set to work early in the morning, but for some time laboured in vain. All the pressure and tackle from the river were pushed and strained to the utmost. The expedient of suddenly letting the water out of the hydraulic machine at the aft cradle, which, when ordinary methods have failed, has often started her, was also tried, but without effect. A general pause was made, therefore, while some screw jacks were being prepared, and then, when she was relieved from all pressure fore and aft, she suddenly slipped for a distance of nearly two feet.

The Princess Royal visited the ship on Saturday, but while the Princess remained it was found impossible to move the vessel. This was in some degree compensated, however, by all the apparatus for moving her being quite at rest, and so enabling her Royal Highness to approach it nearly, which, of course, had it been in action, and a full strain upon all its great system of beams and chains, could not have been allowed for fear of danger.

We regret to add that the number of people injured last week by the fall of one of the scaffolds erected for the accommodation of sight-seers, was numerous.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.—An account of the gross public income and expenditure for the year ending the 30th day of September last, has been laid before the House of Commons. The total income amounted to the sum of £71,178,662, and the total concurrent or collateral expenditure to the sum of £70,694,325, leaving an excess or balance of income to the amount of £484,336. The items of income are as follow:—Customs, £23,106,510; Excise, £17,519,000; stamps, £7,316,233; land and assessed taxes, £3,099,020; income-tax, £15,753,023; Post-office, £2,930,000; and Crown lands, £277,654. The items of expenditure are:—£28,726,183 for the interest and management of the public debt; £2,913,786 for the charges on the Consolidated Fund (including the Civil List, pensions, salaries, and allowances, courts of justice, and miscellaneous charges); £14,336,556 for the army; £10,665,000 for the navy; £900,000 for the expedition to Persia; £6,848,316 for "miscellaneous civil services"; and £4,301,482 for the salaries, &c., of the revenue department; £2,000,000 was applied to redeem Exchequer bonds. Among the charges on the Consolidated Fund is one of £1,125,206, being the compensation to his Majesty the King of Denmark for the abolition of the Sound dues or toll on ships. The balance remaining in the Exchequer on the 30th of September amounted to the sum of £7,963,015.

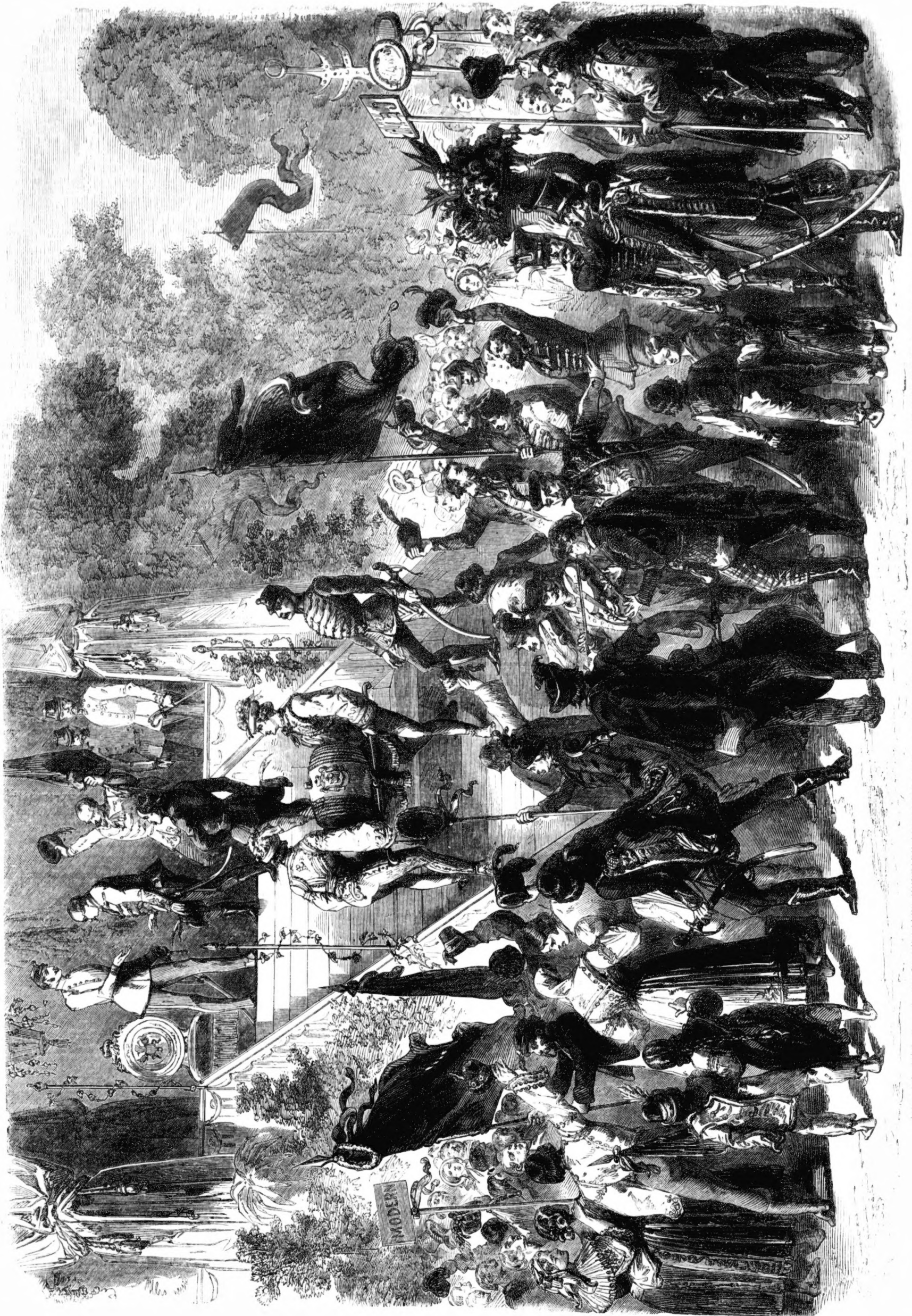
RELIGIOUS ABDUCTION.—A long memorial, signed by the Earl of Shaftesbury, on behalf of the Protestant Alliance, has been presented to the Earl of Clarendon, and published. It contains a serious charge against the lady superiors of a convent at Norwood, a priest connected with that establishment, and a layman named Poache. These persons are accused of having seduced a girl, named Mary Ann Kim, the orphan daughter of poor Catholic parents, to Havre, contrary to the wishes of her mother. The girl was seen in May, 1856, at Havre, in the house of M. Poache, and she appeared well satisfied to remain there; but to evade her mother's search she has left, or been removed from, that retreat. Lord Shaftesbury's letter, acknowledging the receipt of the memorial, says that "her Majesty's ambassador at Paris has been instructed to request that the Government of the Emperor will cause inquiry to be made respecting the child, and to have her restored to her mother."

THE CLOSURE OF HILKIRBY COLLEGE.—The half-yearly examination of the students of this college, which took place on Monday, was invested with a more than usual degree of interest, in consequence of this being the last occasion on which the Directors of the East India Company will be empowered to exercise the functions of examiners. By the provisions of the Act of Parliament the system of nomination to appointments in the civil service of India is from this time abolished, and the competitive system is to be adopted.

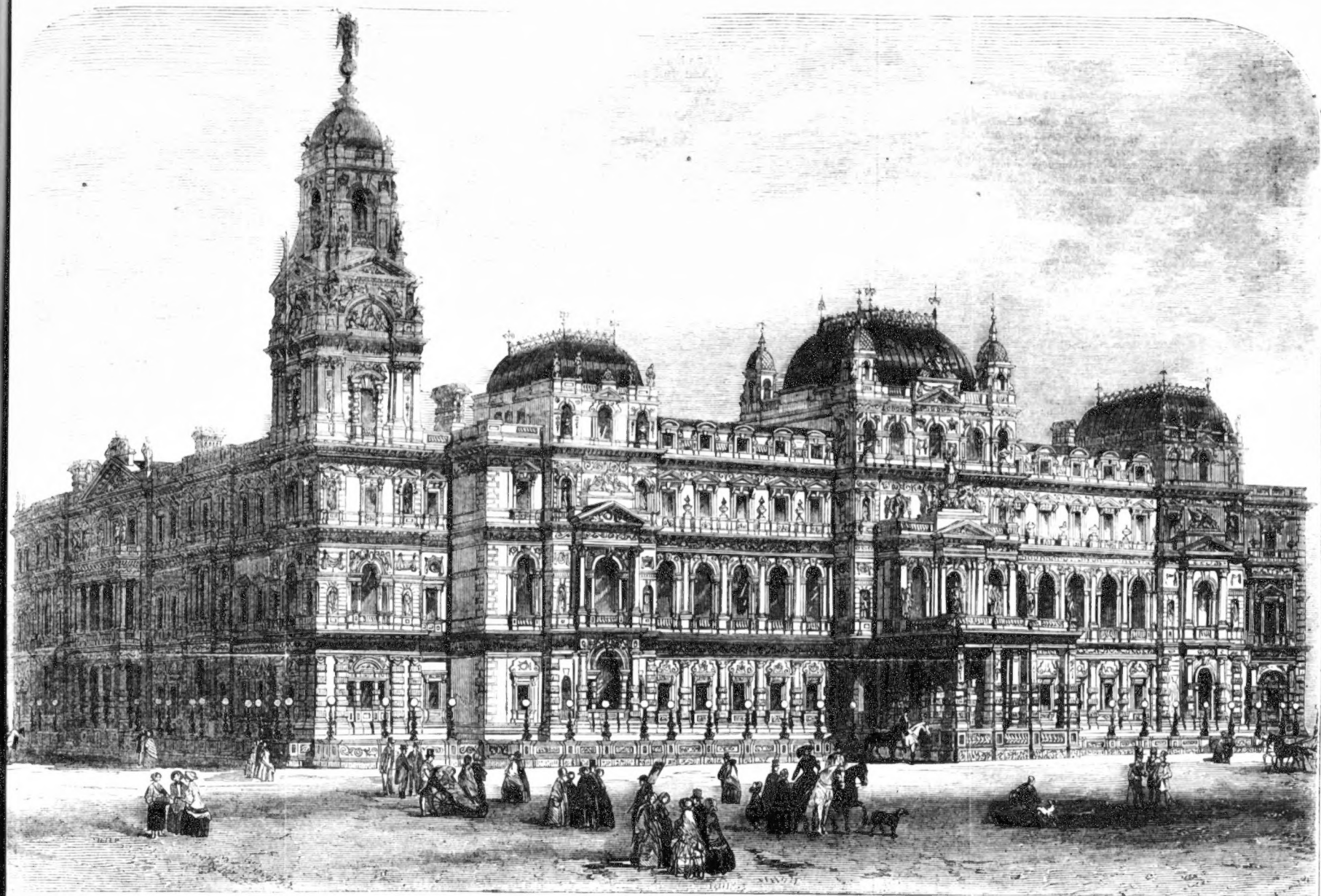
THE BARONY OF BERKELEY.—We understand that Sir Maurice Berkeley proposes to present a petition to her Majesty, claiming the barony of Berkeley as a barony by tenure. The late Lord Fitzhardinge presented a similar petition previously to his having been created a peer by letters patent, a circumstance which prevented at the time the necessity for any judicial decision by a committee of privilege of the House of Lords upon his Lordship's claim as a baron by tenure.

THE OFFICERS who were placed under arrest at Chatham, for associating with a non-commissioned officer, have been released, after being severely reprimanded.

APPROPRIATE RETREAT.—A number of young thieves have been found occupying a portion of a main sewer in Benjamin Street, London, into which they always vanished when pursued; the entrance was an aperture sufficiently large to admit a boy. They had cooking-utensils and a quantity of straw and hay to lie on. They were ordered up to the number of twenty, from twelve to fifteen years of age, and all known to the police. It appears that a toll of a halfpenny was demanded of each boy on his entrance.



THE HUNGARIAN BAND, PERFORMING A FINE NATIONAL MARCH, IN THE PARK OF AUSTRIA, AT PESTH, HUNGARY.



DESIGN FOR THE FOREIGN OFFICE.—(COE AND HOLFAND, ARCHITECTS.)—PREMIUM, £800.

THE PROPOSED NEW PUBLIC OFFICES.

Now that Parliament has re-assembled, we may be certain spite of the prominent interest which such questions as India, the Bank Act, and Parliamentary Reform will be certain to command, that the scheme of the contemplated new Public Offices will not be altogether shelved. Immediately after the Christmas recess, we may look for the appointment of a committee on this subject, when we hope the entire question will be well considered, and a satisfactory decision arrived at. In anticipation of the interest which will then be drawn to the subject, we resume the publication of our series of engravings of the designs to which prizes were awarded at the recent competition.

The first to which we have to direct the reader's attention is the joint

design of Messrs. Coe and Holfand, or a new Foreign-office—a design the chief, if not the only, merit of which is its decorative character. The style is enriched Italian. The building is crowned with curved roofs, after the approved Louvre and Tuileries models, with the addition of a turret at the north-west angle. Besides the porches to the residence, there is a portico in two storeys of columns to the offices. The lower storey generally has three-quarter columns of the Italian-Ionic order rusticated, and quoins and window dressings; the first floor has a Corinthian order and arch-headed windows; and to the upper floor there are windows with dressings and pediments. The cornice to the building is surmounted by a balustrade, interrupted by the dormer windows, which have curved pediments; and there are attics to the chief masses of the buildings, from which rise the

curved roofs, with railings at the top. The prominent portions of the front have Venetian windows, bordered by clustered columns bearing a pediment and sculpture. The plan shows two internal quadrangles, with sunk areas and ornamental gardens; and these quadrangles light, besides the transverse corridors, a grand gallery, of twenty feet wide, on each floor in the residence, through a loggia or recess. The principal corridors to the official department would seem to be lighted only at the ends. The Office has the principal entrance at the east, and a second one in Downing Street, and the entrance to the residence is from the park under a wide-carriage porch, formed of clustered and rusticated pilasters. In the residence, beyond the entrance-hall, is the grand gallery, north and south, before referred to, and a similar corridor, with the reception-rooms on



DESIGN FOR THE FOREIGN OFFICE.—(G. G. SCOTT, ARCHITECT.)—PREMIUM £300.

had issued the letter authorising the Bank to exceed its powers. Under the letter the Bank had transferred £2,000,000 from one department of the Bank to another, but the issue to the public had not reached that point. He fully admitted the gravity of the step, although it only enlarged the issue of paper money securities beyond the £14,000,000 allowed by the Act to meet the monetary exigency; but he denied that it depreciated the currency, as was alleged, inasmuch as the notes issued under the authority of the letter were still payable on demand in gold. After stating the grounds upon which he moved for the re-appointment of the select committee of last session, he referred into details to show that the policy of the Acts of 1844 and 1845 had been perfectly successful, and that our paper currency was in a sound condition. Mr. GIBSTONE did not oppose the Bill of Indemnity, and thought that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was entitled to argue from the transactions of the re-appointment of the committee pursued by the Government. But he was not convinced by his arguments in favour of the re-appointment of the Bank Committee in preference to legislation upon the subject, believing that it would be an expedient committee, the House being called upon to consider, by its vote, the expediency to suspend the Bank Act. He predicted that the inquiry, exhausted by the bill, would be left unfinished in 1858. Instead of directing the committee to inquire again the circle of inquiry into the currency and the law of issue, it might be better employed in investigating the commercial causes of the late panic, and how far they were connected with the state of banking.

Mr. SPENCER ascribed the whole of the commercial embarrassment to the act of 1844.

Mr. GIBSON argued for maintaining the principle of the act; but he wished the limit of the circulation extended, and would throw the responsibility of relaxation upon the Bank of England.

Mr. HENRY maintained that the act of 1844 has failed in its main objects, to secure convertibility, for when the convertibility is especially at stake the act is suspended. Under its operation there has been the most enormous expansion of credit, on the "rem quocunque modo rem" principle.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL described himself as being in the singular position of being well satisfied with what has been done, tolerably satisfied with the over-extended and over-pressed act of 1844, and entirely satisfied with the proposal for re-appointment of the select committee. He touched on the history of past years and the vicissitudes of the currency. He hoped never to see a Minister so constituted to an abstract principle as Mr. Glyn, refusing to undertake the responsibility of the act to prevent a fearful convulsion. He thought that the currency act of 1844 does not require alteration; and said—"I move that the Government have on this occasion pursued a course which will entitle them to the gratitude of the country. I see nothing to be altered in our general law; and I hope that this House, at all events, will not tamper with the great principle of a sound currency."

Mr. DISRAELI said that the act of 1844 was passed to regulate the currency and establish the convertibility of the Bank's notes; yet it had been so framed that it forced those who requested the currency to aggravate distress and distrust by applying to the domestic trade the same treatment applied to the foreign trade, although it should have been exactly opposite. He admitted the object of the act, the securing the convertibility of the Bank paper; and he would pass over the crisis, when the provisions of the law were suspended by a wise indulgence, and confide the dispensing power to the discretion of a Minister. He was for supporting the spirit of the act of 1844 so far as regarded the convertibility of the notes of the Bank; but, believing that its enactment, by treating the domestic and the foreign trade in the same manner, aggravated distress and distrust, the act, in his opinion, should be altered in that respect. He would assent to the Bill of Indemnity; but he thought Ministers took an erroneous course in recommending the re-appointment of the select committee; and if the Chancellor of the Exchequer would defer his motion for the appointment of the committee until Friday, he (Mr. Disraeli) would move as an amendment that it is expedient to legislate on the subject without further inquiry.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER assented; and, after some further observations, the motion was agreed to and reported to the House, when leave was given to introduce the bill.

Some further business was disposed of, and the House adjourned.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7. HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE ADDRESS.

Earl ST. GERMAIN, as Lord Steward of the Household, read her Majesty's gracious answer to the Address of their Lordships in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

THE TRANSPORT OF TROOPS.

Then followed some discussion on what was asserted to be erroneous statements in the speech of Lord Derby on Thursday; the most important of which was that the Government had refused to avail themselves of the repeated offers of the Peninsular and Oriental Company to take out troops overland to India. This the Duke of Argyll denied, but the Earl of Derby reiterated the statement—referring to a report lately made to their shareholders by the Peninsular and Oriental Company.

THE PRESS IN INDIA.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH moved for returns relative to certain orders issued by the Indian Government with regard to the press, the carrying of arms, &c. The Noble Earl condemned Lord Canning's policy of attempting to place Europeans and natives, and the European and native press, on an equal footing, and described the attempt as nothing short of fatuity.

Earl GRANVILLE defended Lord Canning. All Europeans could obtain licenses to carry arms; and as to the press, it was well known that the English papers in India indulged in great violence of language towards the Indian Government, and it was therefore essential that they should be included in the restriction. After some further discussion, in which Earl Grey, the Marquis of Clanricarde, and the Earl of Malmesbury took part, the motion was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE ENGLISH PRISONERS IN NAPLES.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Moulton Mines, made a statement regarding the two engineers taken on board the steamer Cagliari, somewhat modifying that which he had made on Friday. He was sorry to say that by accounts he had received on Sunday from the acting British Consul, it appeared, although the engineers had not been subjected to actual torture, they had been confined in a dark, damp, gloomy cell; that they had complained of their food; and one of them, in a fit of despondency, had made an attempt upon his life. There had also been an endeavour to falsify the evidence against them. There was nothing in their present treatment, he said, materially to complain of, but the Government were expecting further accounts.

THE BANK INDEMNITY BILL.

On the order for the second reading of the Bank Issues Indemnity Bill, Mr. GLADSTONE asked for explanations respecting the profits on the issues already made—whether they were to go to the Bank of England or to the Government; how they were to be computed—whether they were to be profits of the issues or of the discounts; and, lastly, whether the profits were to be calculated on the amount of the issues made to the issue department of the Bank, or on that portion only which would go to the public?

Sir H. WILLOUGHBY hoped that before the Bill went through the committee, some explanation would be given as to the necessity for suspending the law, and how the pressure came upon the Bank of England; and whether there had been any unfair action, by combination or conspiracy, upon the currency of the empire.

Mr. CAYLEY, who entered at considerable length into a criticism upon the existing monetary system of the country, condemned it as impracticable without periodical collapses.

Mr. MALINS cordially approved the Bill; he only regretted that the interference of the Government had not been much earlier, and that they had not armed themselves before the close of the late session with the power to take measures for the relief of the then approaching stringency.

Mr. CROSSLAND thought that credit was due to the Government for their interference without pressure. The Act of 1844, in his opinion, had fulfilled its main objects; but he suggested that some self-acting machinery might be devised whereby its operation could be adapted to the fluctuations in the value of money.

Mr. PHILLIPS commended the conduct of the Bank of England, and pointed out the manner in which, he said, the action of the joint-stock banks and London bill-brokers kept up the prices of raw produce artificially, so as to injure the manufacturing classes.

Mr. NEWDEGATE thought the Bank of England ought to be supported in the conduct they had pursued, and that the Government should devise means to avoid the recurrence of panics, and the giving of undue power to large capitalists.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in reply to Sir H. Willoughby, said he had no knowledge of any combination or conspiracy to intimidate or influence the Bank of England, and he did not believe any such conspiracy existed. With respect to the application of the profits upon the issue of notes under the Government letter, he said, as the matter was still in progress, he had not thought it his duty to come to any definite conclusion. He then replied to other objections, and re-asserted that there was no depreciation of the currency, in the ordinary sense of the term, by the issue of the extra £2,000,000.

After a few words from Mr. Ingram, the Bill was read a second time.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8. HOUSE OF LORDS.

GENERAL HAVELOCK.

Lord GRANVILLE moved an address in answer to a message from her Majesty, recommending the grant of a pension of £1,000 a year to Sir Henry Havelock. The vote was agreed to unanimously, the Duke of Cambridge expressing his cordial concurrence in it.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Lord SHAFTESBURY explained the object of this measure as affecting the rights of incumbents to prohibit Church of England services in their parishes.

The services in Exeter Hall last summer were intended to meet the wants of a large portion of the community which was virtually excluded from public worship; they had been eminently successful, and had produced a deep effect on the minds of the working classes; but they were now at an end in consequence of the prohibition of the movement, though they had been sanctioned by the Bishop of London. In his own mind he had strong doubts of the legality of the step taken by the incumbent, but, assuming that it was legal, he had felt it to be his duty to introduce this measure, and thus rescue the Church of England from a disability under which she at present laboured. Lord Shaftesbury concluded by saying that he was willing to postpone the Bill for a time on account of the representations which had been made to him that the bench of Bishops were opposed to it; he therefore begged leave to move that the Bill be read a second time on the 15th of February next.

Lord DEAN expressed his satisfaction that the Bill was to be postponed. He was not competent to say whether the Exeter Hall services had done good or not, but he was averse to legislation on this particular case, involving, as it did, an alteration in the whole provincial system.

The Bishop of LONDON said he doubted whether the success of the Exeter Hall services had been so great as was stated, and whether the working classes did attend in such numbers as was supposed. He sympathized heartily with the effort to extend the influence of the Church, but he hoped this object might be effected without any important innovation on the provincial system.

The Bishop of LONDON said the incumbent who had prohibited the Exeter Hall services had no doubt acted conscientiously, but as he, the Bishop of London, believed, without the exercise of a sound discretion. He could not believe that it was ever the intention of the law to give an incumbent a monopoly which should stand in the way of the teaching of the Gospel.

Lord PAMMUR expressed his regret that the Exeter Hall services had been suspended, and testified to their usefulness from actual observation.

After some further explanation by Lord SHAFTESBURY, the second reading of the bill was postponed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. INDIAN AFFAIRS.

IN REPLY TO SIR J. PAKINGTON.

Mr. V. SMITH stated that it was not intended to include in the papers on Indian affairs, promised in her Majesty's speech, a memorial from Calcutta praying for the recall of the Governor General, that memorial not having been transmitted through the usual channel.

JOINT-STOCK BANKS.

Mr. HEADLAM moved a resolution—"That the unlimited liability of shareholders in joint-stock banks gives rise to a species of credit injurious to the interests of the public; and that the present law enforcing the adoption of this principle requires alteration." In bringing forward this motion, he said he was not influenced by any slight consideration, but by a recent conviction, which he had long entertained, and which was confirmed by recent events, that the principle of the unlimited liability of shareholders operated as the moving cause of the mismanagement of joint-stock banks, and precipitated and aggravated a national crisis. He illustrated his argument by reference to the case of the Liverpool Borough Bank; and observed that it was found, whenever a great failure of one of these banks took place, that it arose from the paid-up capital having been wasted and squandered through mismanagement, though it still continued to obtain credit in the money-market, owing to the unlimited liability of its shareholders.

Mr. COWAN opposed the motion. Mr. Headlam had mistaken the cause of the evils he had mentioned, which had resulted from a system of gross mismanagement, breaches of trust, and practices which should be made indictable offences.

Mr. COLLIER said, if the resolution had been based upon the principle of non-interference, he should support it; but, as it pledged the House to the condemnation of unlimited liability, he was compelled to vote against it.

Mr. Ewart and Mr. Wylde shortly supported the resolution, which was opposed by Mr. L. King.

Mr. WAGGELL remarked that there was a distinction between partnership concerns that traded with their own money, and banks trading with the money of others. To limit the liability of banks would be to limit their credit, which was their sole capital. He opposed the motion.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he concurred in the objection of Mr. Collier to the form of the resolution, and protested against being bound down to a formula that the unlimited liability of joint-stock banks was injurious to the interests of the public, the inference being that it should be prohibited. The whole question would, however, fall within the scope of the inquiry of the committee the re-appointment of which he should propose on Friday, and he was under the necessity of opposing the motion.

Mr. HANKEY moved, by way of amendment, the following resolution:—"That the present law, enforcing the unlimited liability of shareholders in joint-stock banks, requires alteration."

After a short reply by Mr. HEADLAM, the original motion was negatived; and, upon a division, Mr. HANKEY's resolution was likewise negatived by 115 to 47.

SIR HENRY HAVELOCK.

The House having resolved itself into a committee on the Message from her Majesty respecting Sir Henry Havelock.

Lord PALMERSTON, after paying a tribute to the distinguished services of the gallant officer, and a passing eulogium upon the merits of other members of both the services in India, moved a resolution granting Sir Henry Havelock an annuity of £1,000 during his natural life.

The motion was warmly seconded by Sir J. PAKINGTON.

After some remarks by Admiral Walcott, Sir E. Coddington, Mr. J. White, and Mr. Crossley, who thought the amount of the annuity too small, the resolution was agreed to.

THE BANK INDEMNITY BILL.

The clauses of the Bank Issues Indemnity Bill were agreed to, after some discussion.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

BANK INDEMNITY BILL.

This bill was brought up from the Commons, and read a first time. Earl GREY said he understood that only one discussion was to be taken on this subject; and as the bill was to be read a second time to-morrow, and a third time on Friday, it would be very convenient if a precise day were fixed for the debate. It was agreed after that the discussion should be taken on Friday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

SIR HENRY HAVELOCK.

Mr. FITZROY brought up the report on the message from her Majesty conferring a pension of £1,000 a year for life on Sir Henry Havelock.

Colonel North, Mr. Bagnell, Mr. Kinnaird, Mr. Ball, Sir M. Farquhar, and Sir J. Pakington, spoke in favour of continuing the pension to General Havelock's son.

Ultimately the message was read a second time and agreed to, and a bill was ordered to be introduced accordingly.

THE CLIVE FUND.

Sir J. PAKINGTON rose and said, that in 1765, Lord Clive paid into the Calcutta treasury a legacy of £70,000, the interest of which was to be devoted to the relief of officers and soldiers disabled in India, and the wives and families of Europeans who might die in the Company's services. He wished to be informed of the present state and condition of the fund. He also asked some questions touching the patronage of the East India Company.

Mr. V. SMITH said he was unable then to answer the question relative to the "Clive Fund." With regard to the second question, the appointment of cadets rested with the Court of Directors, subject to the Board of Control; but it was a matter in which they rarely if ever interfered.

EXPENSES OF THE STRIKE IN INDIA.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER intimated, in answer to Sir H. Willoughby, that the army expenses would doubtless be increased by the necessity of suppressing the Indian mutiny, but the amount would ultimately be borne by the East India Company, the increase being in the nature of an advance.

THE BANK INDEMNITY BILL.

This bill was brought up for the third reading.

After some discussion, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that no pressure was put upon the Bank by the Government, and the Government might have withheld the letter if they had considered themselves justified in doing so. No person complained to him that the Bank had refused discounts, but that it had virtually ceased in London except at the Bank of England. It could not be expected that the Bank of England could discount at a crisis without discretion any more than at other times. He left it to the House to judge if that state of things did not require some interference on the part of the Government. The Right Hon. Gentleman denied that the Government were influenced in the issuing of the letter, as had been stated, by the knowledge that a deputation were about to wait on the Government, from Liverpool, or any other place.

The Bill was read a third time and passed, and ordered to be taken to the House of Lords.

The SPENCER has appointed Sir Francis Baring, Mr. Walpole, Sir William Somerville, Sir William Heathcote, Mr. W. Miles, and Mr. Bonham Carter, to form the general committee of elections for the present session.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.—Mr. Bagshaw has been returned for Harwich (vacant by the death of Major Warburton) in opposition to Mr. Arcebeckne.—Mr. A. Baring is elected to succeed the Hon. F. Baring in the representation of Thetford.—Mr. Sergeant Shee has retired from the contest at Ashton-under-Lyne; Mr. Gibson is almost sure to be returned.

SCHIR SINGH.

PRINCE SOLTYKOFF, to whom we are indebted for the illustration on the following page, also furnishes us with a description of his visit to the great Sikh chief, Schir Singh. He says—"As we approached Omritsur, the Rajah came out to meet us. A file of elephants, accompanied by a cloud of horsemen, came into view; and when I arrived in their midst, it seemed as if I had been carried back into remote antiquity. The plain, far and wide, was covered with thousands of Sikh horsemen, superbly clothed, and mounted on fiery chargers. A little imagination sufficed to convert them into an army of Saracens, with their Sultan Saladin.

"The greater personages, sprinkled with precious stones, were seated on thrones of gold and silver, mounted on elephants, who in turn were adorned with housings of embroidery. After these came their domestic servants, many of them entirely naked, others with garments of linen, longing in wild, graceful (but not over-clean) folds, from their persons. But even amongst the horsemen, resplendent as they were in silk and velvet, were here and there others equally nude, and only indebted to art for a little strip of linen bound round their loins. They bestrode magnificent horses, sumptuously apparelled; and were the grooms of those mounted on the elephants. Some unfortunates clung to the tails of their masters' horses—youthful Sikhs, glorious in cloth of gold, armed with many daggers, swords, and pistols, with moustachios turned up, and their beards carefully separated in the centre of their chin and combed backward to their ears, with ferocious coquetry. I noticed while passing through the luxuriant fields, a man hanging on a gibbet, and afterwards learned that he was a thief; his feet were already gnawed away by dogs. The contrast of this ghastly corpse, with the brilliant cavalcade passing beside it, no one heeding it, was indeed most striking."

THE THUGS OF INDIA

M. SCHAEFF, an Hungarian of considerable artistic genius, lately travelled in India; and while at Delhi, visited in the prison there a party of Thugs who, in the presence of an Indian modeller, daily represented scenes in which they had been engaged, that he might reproduce the groups in clay. In one of his visits to the prison, M. Schaeff painted the picture which we have engraved on page 393, and which, so far as the figures are concerned, represents a scene displayed by the Thug prisoners. The Thugs are a sort of religious corporation, they worship the bloodthirsty goddess Kali, whom they seek to propitiate by sacrificing in cool blood as many unoffending individuals as they can. Their religion dates from a remote period; but until Colonel Sleeman was employed by the Government of the East India Company to suppress them, very little was known of their operations. In his "History of the Thugs," the Colonel relates some remarkable confessions made by some of these monsters after they were lodged in prison. The following narrative is from his pen, and will give the reader some idea of the system followed by these wandering bands of religious murderers.

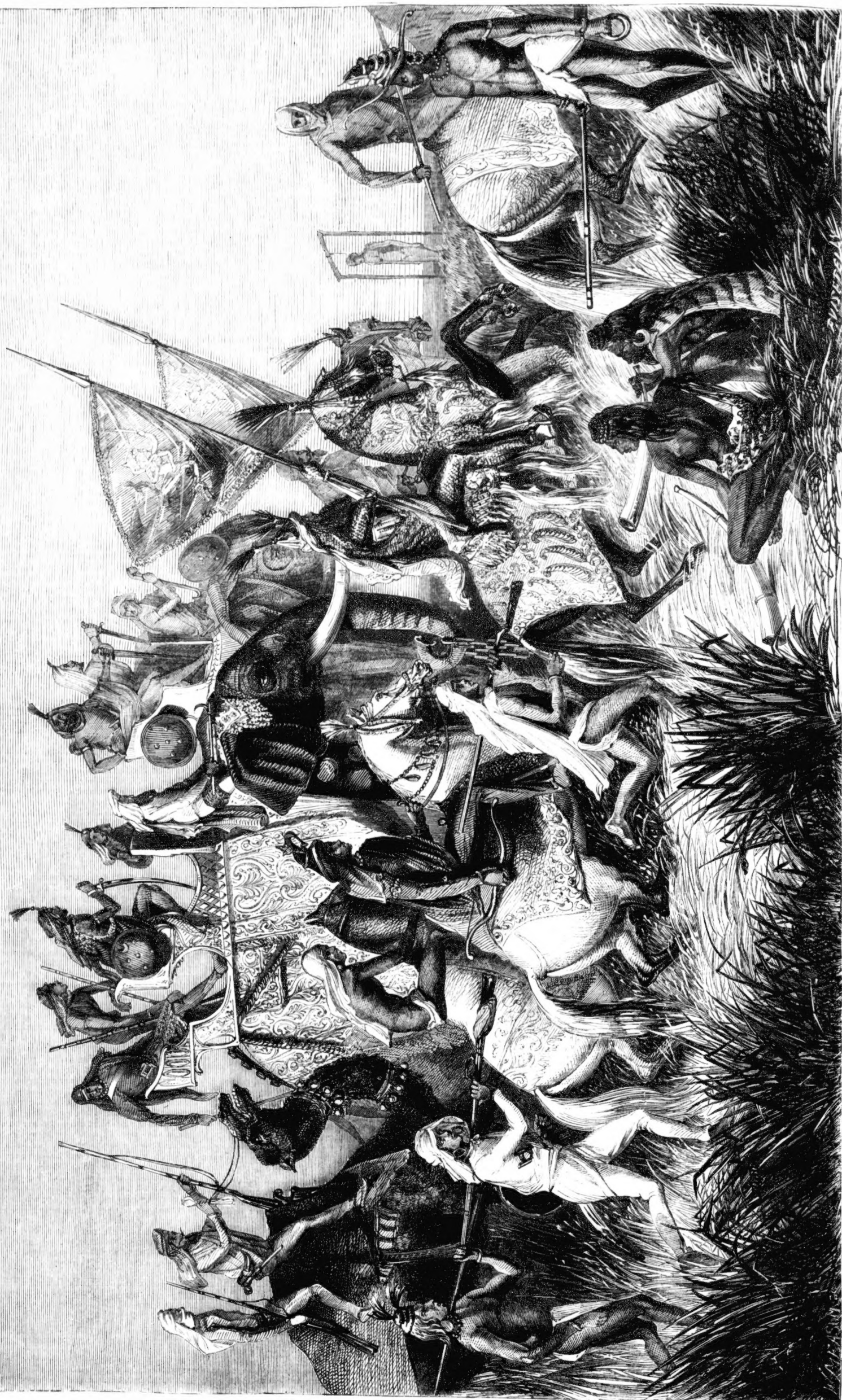
A Mogul officer, travelling from the Punjab to Oude, crossed the Ganges early one morning in the neighbourhood of Meerut for the purpose of reaching the high road to Bareilly. He rode a fine spirited Arabian steed, and was accompanied by his cook and groom. On the left bank of the river the officer came upon a group of men of repulsive appearance, who appeared to be journeying the same road as himself. They addressed him in the most humble tones, and sought in every way to get in conversation with him; but the officer was on his guard against the Thugs, and quietly recommended the travellers to leave him to continue his way. They used all their art to remove the suspicions they at once saw he entertained—but it was in vain. The officer grew impatient, and ordered them in a towering voice to be off; they obeyed him. On the following day, however, he again came upon them, but they presented a somewhat different appearance from that of the previous day. They were all Mussulmans; and as he approached them they turned and addressed him upon the dangers of the road, and begged that he would allow them to place themselves under his protection. He made no reply to their overtures, and as they still continued to keep near him, he fixed his eyes upon them, placed his hand on the hilt of his sword, and threatened that, unless they immediately departed, he would send their heads flying from their shoulders. The officer was a powerful man, and, in addition to his sword, he carried a brace of pistols and a bow. In the evening another band of travellers, while resting at the same caravansary as the officer, made friends with his servants, and on joining them on the road at daybreak two travellers endeavoured to get into conversation with their master; but he again peremptorily declined their company. On the fourth day, the officer, quietly pursuing his journey, reached the centre of a desert plain, his servants following at some little distance. Suddenly he came upon a party of six apparently poor Mussulmans, weeping over the dead body of one of their companions who had died on the wayside. They were soldiers from Lahore, on their way to Lucknow, to visit their wives and families after a long absence. Their companion, the joy and pride of his family, had fallen a victim to the fatigues of so long a journey, and they were about to lay him in a grave they had dug with their hands; but, poor wretches, they were unable to read the Koran, and begged that the officer would perform the last rites for their departed brother, and thus do an act of goodness which would be remembered both in this world and the next. The officer could not resist such an appeal to his religious sentiments. He dismounted, laid down his arms, and washed his face, feet, and hands, so that he might offer up his prayers in perfect purity. Placing himself on his knees at the head of the grave, he commenced reading in a loud voice the burial service. Two companions of the deceased knelt near the body, praying and weeping; the other four had gone to meet the two servants, and so prevent them, as they said, from interrupting the prayers of the good Samaritan. Suddenly, cloths were twisted round the necks of the officer and his servants, and in a few minutes their bodies were thrown into the grave—the head of the uppermost body reposing on the feet of that below, according to the custom among the Thugs.

Every traveller whom the officer had met belonged to the same band of Thugs. They had despaired of gaining the officer's confidence, and had recourse to this stratagem to murder and rob him of his gold and jewels.

The author of the "Autobiography of Latifallah," was also instructed by a Thug as to the modes in which unwary travellers were entrapped and slain on the Indian roads. "We adopt various modes," said this mild Hindoo, "in making ourselves familiar with travellers, by appearing to them as mendicants, by engaging to be their guides, &c., and even by acting as pimps for them. A woman attracts a traveller's attention, and fascinating him in her enchanting conversation, she leads him apart from the road, and then, pretending to be tired, she sits under a tree, takes out a tinder-box from her bag to strike fire for smoking; in the mean time one of us arriving there, the traveller naturally dislikes such an intrusion, but the woman pacifies him by telling him 'he is my husband or brother, and will soon go away about his business, after taking a little fire, and then we will smoke and talk at leisure.' During this talk, if the traveller is not enough off his guard, in smoking and talking, &c., she, as if by accident, removes such a part of her dress as naturally very soon attracts his whole attention; and then any one of us throwing a handkerchief like this (exhibiting a long silk handkerchief with a knot over his neck, gives him a pull, which brings him down senseless; he, however, shakes his hands and legs a little, which are instantly silenced. His person is then searched, and immediately interred at the same spot, and we pursue our way separately, engaging to meet again at a certain place on a certain day."

INDIAN REFORM.—A public meeting, "to consider the policy of continuing the present irresponsible government of India," was held at the London Tavern on Wednesday evening. Mr. Gilpin, M.P., was in the chair, and the meeting was addressed by Mr. Phillimore, Mr. Miall, Lord Clanricarde, Mr. Meade (late the editor of the "Friend of India"), and Mr. Ernest Jones. The feeling of the meeting was against the government of the East India Company, and in favour of reform generally.

THE NEWLY-APPOINTED GUARDIAN of the grave in which Napoleon I. slept at St. Helena, a M. Quatier de Rouge mont, is, we hear, at loggerheads with the East India Company, and now says he won't go out to act as custode till the "hall of lead" ceases to be an incubus altogether.



SCIR SINGH, RAJAH OF THE SIKHS, WITH HIS ESCORT.—[FROM A DRAWING BY PRINCE A. SOLTYKOFF.]



THE THUGS OF INDIA: PREPARATIONS FOR STRANGLING A VICTIM.—(FROM A PAINTING BY M. SCHIEFF.)

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CHRISTMAS EVE TWO CENTURIES AND A HALF AGO: A LOVERS' PARTING.
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The Proprietors of the "Illustrated Times" inform their subscribers that they have been engaged for many months past in the preparation of a series of most highly-finished Engravings on a large scale, to be printed separately from the paper, and which they propose to issue at short intervals throughout the coming year. Specimens of these Engravings will be shortly in the hands of the news-agents, and the Proprietors will allow these specimens to speak for themselves, feeling confident that they will more than realise any eulogy they could bestow upon them.

The first of these Engravings will be issued early in January, 1858. Some idea of the sterling and interesting character of the series may be gained from the following list of subjects already completed:—

The Return from Hawking	Painted by Sir E. Landseer, R.A.
The Wolf and the Lamb	W. Mulready, R.A.
Uncle Toby and the Widow Wadman	C. Leslie, R.A.
The Shepherd's Chief Mourner	Sir E. Landseer, R.A.
The Canterbury Pilgrims	T. Stothard, R.A.
The Young Princes in the Tower	Paul Delaroche
Happy as a King	W. Collins, R.A.
Crossing the Bridge	Sir E. Landseer, R.A.
Family Happiness	Meyerheim.
Old English Hospitality	G. Catermole.
The Sanctuary	Sir E. Landseer, R.A.
Crossing the Brook	J. M. W. Turner, R.A.
The Death of Queen Elizabeth	Paul Delaroche.
The Last In	W. Mulready, R.A.
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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1857.

INDIAN NEWS.

THE information brought by the *Oriental*, in advance of the regular mail, is exactly calculated to wind up public curiosity to the highest pitch. We have our attention directed to one single point of interest—Lucknow—where Havelock and Outram are surrounded by an immense force. Some accounts say that their troops want food—others, that provisions have reached them. Then comes the great fact that Sir Colin Campbell is advancing to the relief; and down falls the curtain on an intensely-interesting situation. It is one of the most exciting positions of this memorable revolt.

Speculation is, in a certain sense, useless in affairs like these; and we dare say that a reader who peruses alternately a creaking paper and a cheerful one must be puzzled by the plausibility of both. Nevertheless, it is always worth while to distil the various accounts of a mail into one intelligible "leader;" and, besides, a certain amount of experience has been gained by the summer's work, and it is not together without data that an observer proceeds to discuss probabilities and anticipate results.

So brilliant have been the successes of our troops, that we have been apt to forget that a summer's rest has been in arms against us. The triumphs of our Havelocks and Outrams have been really dashes through bodies of men who ought to have eaten them up—sheer eccentricities in modern war—the achievements of a superior race against inferior animals—only antedated by the old doings of the Norsemen. But the enemy is strong, and for that leveller, gunpowder, it is probable that the enemy would never stand against our men at all. Protected, however, by walls, and having learned artillery from us, of course their vast numbers tell; and when Havelock and Outram, on the 25th of September, entered the Residency at Lucknow, the loss incurred by their small force had been frightful. They carried their point, which was to save the garrison from the fate that at that very hour impended over them. But what then was the position? It was this:—they were themselves blockaded under new conditions. It was not such a siege as that which they had raised. But it was a new siege—or this plain reason, that their force altogether was some 2,200 men, and that 70,000 of the enemy were in arms in and around the place!

In such a strait, affairs would seem, superficially, hopeless. But we have to deal with sepys, and not with the siege in question has passed for a very harmless affair, compared with the loss of the garrison which it prevented. What happens? The British, though absolutely separated into two parties, hold their own. They get communications out; nay, they make attacks, and in one of these it seems that Sir James Outram has been wounded. Up to the time of the *Oriental's* mail, the enemy had done nothing to shake their constancy. We have heard that provisions had reached them—a thing almost incredible, with such a force holding the neighbourhood, yet evidently stated on some authority, and by no means wonderful among the wonders of this servile war.

To be too confident is as weak—though, thank goodness, it is not as base—as to be ever anxious to think the worst. We are sure that people will take the confident side in contemplating this crisis. There is the character of the men, the story of the provisions, and the known triumphs of the past. But the great point is that Sir Colin is on the move. He left Calcutta late in October, having remained to organise the transport department. He was to pick up a force at Cawnpore, and by the 7th of November was to be near Lucknow. Troops were arriving in weekly batches at Calcutta meanwhile, and Lord Canning, they say, was fully aware that every man he could get ought to be sent on to Oude. In that province the fate of the mutiny seems destined to be sealed. All things are gathering to a crisis there, and a mail or two will inform us of probably the greatest shocks of arms that have happened since the revolt began.

The other news of the mail is of no great consequence. Fugitives from Delhi, we see, have been well cut up in one place, which is most satisfactory. Ruffians are devastating the country here and there, but vengeance follows on their heels. People will not pity the gray hairs and ninety years of the King of Delhi so much, when they read that "he deliberately ordered the murder of forty-eight women and children." The very sentence suggests a file of musketeers. But "King's blood must keep word." Captain Hodson promised him his life, as a temporary representative of her Majesty, and the aged villain must be allowed the indulgence of a slow death in jail.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

MR. BRIGHT has addressed a letter to the Chairman of his Birmingham Election Committee, to say that his health will not permit him to be in the House till the usual period of commencing the session, and to call attention to the urgent necessity of reconstituting the Government of our Indian Empire.

A FEMALE ORATOR, named Ratke, appeared at all the "hunger meetings" in New York. In reply to a query made by some of the powers as to who she was, she replied:—"In the parlour, I am a lady; in business, a man; and when insulted, a warrior. No one knows who I am, or where I come from; neither shall anyone know."

MISS JENNY MEYER is appointed to fill Johanna Wagner's post in the Royal Theatre of Berlin. Frau Wagner has, it is said, married, retired into private life, and entirely withdrawn from her professional career.

A HISTORY OF THE LITERATURE OF GREECE was undertaken by the late Professor K. O. Miller, but left unfinished at his death. The present Chancellor of the Exchequer and Dr. Donaldson have undertaken to translate and edit his manuscripts.

MR. LEIGH MURRAY, we hear, is about to appear at Drury Lane, the return of Mr. C. Matthews not being looked for till March.

MADAME LIND GOLDSCHMIDT is about to give a grand concert in aid of the funds for the erection of a monument to Handel in the town of Halle.

A BOY, aged eleven, living at Mildenhall, was unjustly accused of hurting a pony. He went to his room, read in the Bible, and then hung himself.

MR. MONCKEIFF, well known some years ago as a dramatic author of considerable ability, died at the Charterhouse last week, in the sixty-third year of his age.

THE OFFICERS at Woolwich have opened a military institute—a library, reading-room, and refreshment-rooms—for the use of soldiers; an endeavour to keep them from the public-house.

THE FOLLOWING ADVERTISEMENT appeared in one of the St. Petersburg papers:—"To be sold, portraits of Nena Sahib, the Indian chief, the slayer of the English, at fifteen copecks each, the proceeds for the relief of the sufferers in the Crimea."

THE STEAMBOAT CATARACT burst her boiler, at Lisbon, on the Missouri river, on the 17th ult., killing five persons and scalding fifteen others.

MR. HODGES, of the Western Circuit, has been appointed Chief Justice of the Cape Colony. Mr. Hodges is the author of a valuable work on railway lands.

PUBLIC SERVANTS IN PRUSSIA are so ill-paid that it is necessary for the State to give them Christmas-boxes. 250,000 thalers have been allotted this year for the purpose by the Government.

THE BISHOP OF BRUNN has discovered an "oil of St. Walburga," by which an inflammation of the eyes was cured on the patient's kissing the phial!

MUCH FEVER PREVAILED IN JAMAICA at the last advices, and several Europeans had fallen victims.

MARSEILLES was visited on the 25th of last month by a hurricane, which blew down houses, killing several persons.

MISS BALFE is now in Paris, and is, it is said, likely to obtain some engagement there.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE KINGDOM OF BAVARIA on a large scale, written at the special command of King Maximilian the Second, by several of the first savants of the country, is shortly to appear in a series of volumes. It will comprise not only geographical, topographical, and statistical information, but also the history, natural history, history of the dialects, &c., of the various parts of the realm.

A NEW "DANGER" is at work at Modena. A circular is out stating that no tax, stamp, or postage is required for good points, journals like the "Armonia," of Torino and the "Bilancia," of Milano. All others are to pay double.

GENERAL MOURAVIEFF, of Kazan celebrity, is at present in France.

M^{rs} MICHAEL M'HAFFIE, of Glasgow, a bankrupt, has availed himself of the sanctuary of Holyrood to keep out of the hands of his creditors.

A COLLISION recently occurred on the Mississippi river between two steamers, about twenty-four persons perished.

A PURGATORIAN SOCIETY—the object of which is "to provide a fund, that whenever one of its members dies, he can have several masses for the repose of his soul"—is asserted by American journals to exist in New York.

THE CABLE between Malta and Corfu has been submerged, and the communication is complete.

THE SIAMESE AMBASSADORS had an interview with Lord Clarendon on Monday. On Tuesday, they left town for Birmingham.

BAYONNE has joined with Brest, Sedan, and Cherbourg, in a petition to have the powder depots in their arsenals removed out of harm's way, as notice of accident has been so destructive at Mayence.

HER MAJESTY'S STEAMSHIP RHADAMANTHUS was on fire at Woolwich on Sunday night, but the flames were suppressed before material damage was done.

MR. JOHN PHILLIP, A.R.A., who has for some time been engaged in painting a portrait of Prince Albert for the Town Hall of Aberdeen, was honoured with a final sitting on Saturday.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON was present at the Grand Opera at the grand representation of the ballet of "La Somnambule," and afterwards sent Madame Rosati a magnificent bracelet ornamented with diamonds, rubies, and emeralds.

THE CELEBRATED STATUARY, RAUCH, died at Dresden on the 3rd inst.

THE COUNSELLORS OF THE EMPEROR OF CHINA, according to a private letter recently received, have got him off on an excursion to Tartary, in order to keep him out of the way of European emissaries.

INFLUENZA, in an epidemic form, is threatening us again, as it did in 1855. As a precursor of cholera, this disease should be watched with peculiar interest.

THE NORWEGIAN BARQUE COURIER was lost off Cape Spitzbergen on the 21st ult., and all her crew are believed to have perished.

A MILLION STERLING is spent in the metropolis yearly in aid of the sick—nearly 700,000 persons—one-tenth of the whole population—receive medical advice gratuitously.

DR. ULLATHORNE, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Birmingham, has addressed a pastoral letter to the churches in his diocese, in which he strongly condemns the cry for vengeance on the Indian people.

THE MUD FISH, which had for two years enjoyed a tropical climate in the Crystal Palace, is deceased. We believe there is another in reserve, however, in the fountain basin.

AN EXPLORING EXPEDITION IN DEMERARA has found gold, platinum, and iron, in the British territories.

THE CHAMPAGNE VINTAGE is said to be "most brilliant" this year.

A FEARFUL STORM burst over Gibraltar on the 30th ult., accompanied by vivid lightning and heavy rain. There was a storm at Lisbon about the same time.

AN OBSERVATORY is to be set up at Havannah, on the advice of Humboldt.

MR. C. HILDYARD, M.P. for Whitehaven, died on Monday, after a severe and protracted illness.

A DENSE FOG enveloped the metropolis and the country within a radius of thirty miles on Tuesday. It occasioned many accidents in the streets, and afforded an unusual opportunity for thieves.

THE COUNTESS DOWAGER OF MORLEY died at Saltram, Devonshire, on Monday night.

A PRIVATE LETTER from an officer of marines at Hong Kong says that orders had been received to prepare for an attack on Canton between the 15th and 20th of this month.

THE TARTAR (American ship), from New York to Shanghai, with loss of most of her sails, and crew in a state of mutiny, intending to run for Port Praya, was spoken 3rd Nov., in 94 N. 31 W.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF MOZART'S DEATH fell on Saturday last; and the weekly concert at the Crystal Palace was made the means of paying a tribute to his memory by selecting the music entirely from his works.

GENERAL TOTLEBEN, the well-known Russian General, fell from his horse two days ago near the Kurul at Wiesbaden, and broke his right arm.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE KING OF PORTUGAL will take place in April next.

MR. BAYARD TAYLOR, the well-known American traveller, was married at Gotha, a few weeks ago, by the chaplain to the Grand Duke, to Miss Marie Hansen, of Gotha. He is to return to America next autumn.

THE DUBLIN COMMITTEE of the Indian Relief Fund have transmitted to the central committee a sum exceeding £13,000.

THE COURT.

THE Queen and Prince Consort, accompanied by the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, Princess Alice, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, Princess Helena, Princess Louise, and Princess Beatrice, arrived at Osborne from Windsor Castle on Monday. Prince Alfred met her Majesty at the Clarence Yard, Gosport, and crossed over to Osborne. His Royal Highness returned again in the afternoon to Alverbank.

It is generally understood that there will be no Windsor theatricals this Christmas. The preparations for the marriage of the Princess Royal have occasioned this arrangement, it is said. The marriage will take place in the third week in January, in the Chapel Royal, St. James's. The Princess will hold a farewell reception at Court previous to her departure from England. Prince Frederick-William of Prussia left London on Friday for the Continent.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

I HAVE received further information as to the paragraph which appeared in my column last week relative to the marriage of the Princess Royal. At the ceremony, which is fixed for the 25th of January, more than eighty foreigners of the highest ranks are expected to be present, and it is not impossible that the Emperor of Russia may be among them. I should almost hope he will not come. We are a very unforgiving people, and recollections of wrongs imagined to be long since dead revive very quickly with us. A howl from a drunken man in the crowd might inflame all the ruff there, and there might be a repetition of that delicate and kind treatment which impressed foreigners with such a notion of our refinement and hospitality, in the matter of Marshal Haynau and the brewers. However, be that as it may, it appears that there is a wish at court to give our visitors some notion of the state of the dramatic art in England, and consequently her Majesty's Theatre has been retained for three nights, during which an English tragedy, comedy, farce, and opera are to be performed by our best artists. Ten boxes are to be taken into one, and the eighty "swells" (I can think of no other collective name for them) are to sit together. It was thought best, in order to avoid any chance of jealousy or partiality, to select a theatre not used for English representation, and to place the management in the hands of a gentleman conversant with theatrical matters, but unpledged to any particular house; and her Majesty's Theatre and Mr. Mitchell (of Bond Street) are the place and person upon whom the choice has fallen. Mr. Charles Kean, it is said, refused to act, indignant that, as "Manager of the Court Theatricals," the conduct of the affair was not placed in his hands. Surely this is amputating your nose to revenge your face! By the omission of his name in the roll of those engaged on this occasion, posterity will surely imagine him to have been an over-rated man, whose imposture of talent was discovered ere his retirement from the boards. Why should not Mr. Macready return for

PHOTOGRAPHY ON WOOD.—The great obstacle to the direct application of photography to wood engraving has been that the material or coating laid upon the surface of the wood to receive the image operated upon the character of the block, and destroyed it for the purpose of engraving. This difficulty has been surmounted, say the Paris journals, by a M. Lallemand. His process is described as being excessively simple, and as follows:—The entire surface of the block is wetted with a solution of alum, and allowed to dry; it is then brushed over with a paste composed of animal soap, gelatine, and alum, which is carefully dried. The surface on which the image is to be reproduced is placed for a few minutes in a solution of chlorhydrate of ammonia, then dried, and next placed in a solution of nitrate of silver of 30 dec. density, after which it is dried. The negative image on glass or paper, is applied to the block by means of a frame of peculiar construction, which allows the operator to watch the progress of reproduction. When a satisfactory image has been obtained, it is fixed by means of a saturated solution of hyposulphite of soda. The paste prevents the block from imbibing moisture during the operation. The inventor states that the employment of alum and hyposulphite, so far from disintegrating the blocks, was found to give them a degree of consistency favourable for engraving.

INAUGURATION OF THE STATUES OF SCHILLER AND GOETHE.

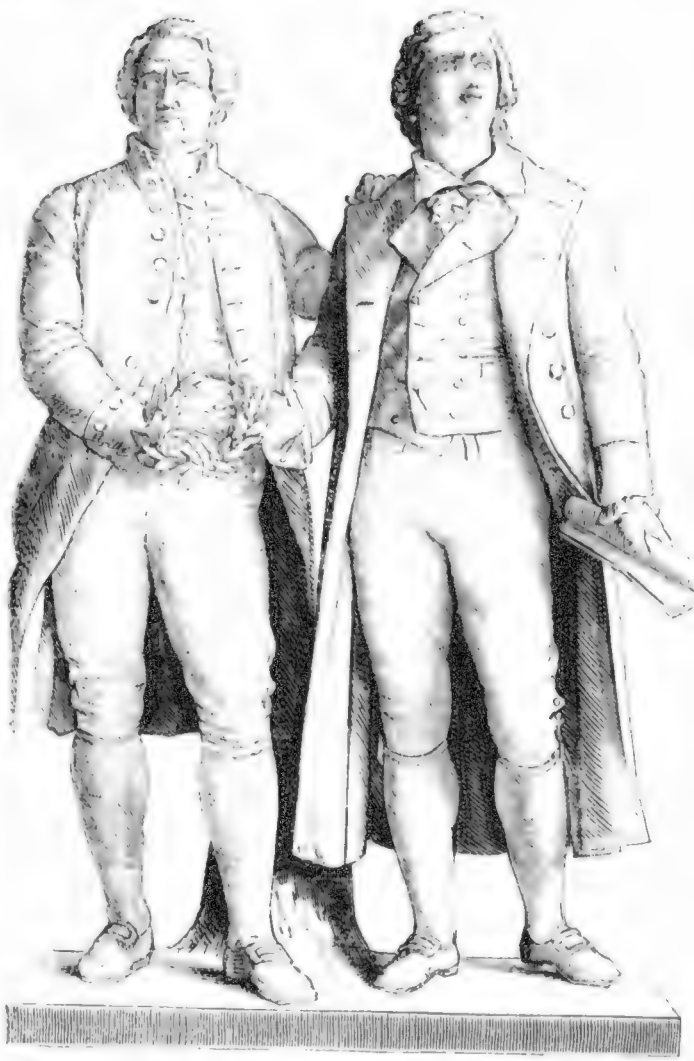
At Weimar, recently, the first stone was laid of a pedestal, on which is to be placed a statue in honour of Charles Augustus, Grand Duke of Weimar, and at the same time statues of Goethe, Schiller, and Wieland were inaugurated. In honour of this occasion, a festival was held which lasted three days, during which time the whole city turned out to pay homage by their presence to the memory of the great men whose forms and features were to be handed down to posterity.

On the first day of the festival the proceedings opened at the old Manor House of Weimar, with a hymn composed for the occasion by Liszt. A gentleman then mounted a platform specially erected, and addressed the people. He recapitulated the good works of Charles Augustus, forgetting nothing which which could endear the memory of the man. At the conclusion of this discourse the ceremony of laying the first stone took place; and then the people hurried back to town to attend the theatres and other entertainments. The second day was the grand day; it was devoted to the poets.

About twenty-five or twenty-six years ago, when the Grand Duke Charles Augustus was dead, and his eldest son, Charles Frederick, married to the sister of the late Czar Nicholas, had succeeded him, Louis of Bavaria, always a patron of the fine arts, wrote to the young Grand Duke of Weimar, and proposed to raise a monument which should be composed of a group of statues formed by Charles Augustus, Goethe, Schiller, &c. His Majesty proposed to give the metal, that the statues might be of bronze, but his proposition did not receive the slightest sympathy; it was in no way favoured by the Court at Weimar.

Twenty years more elapsed, and the memory of these men became still more dear to Germany, and towards 1850 a statue was raised to Herder in Weimar. To this work Americans subscribed largely. Shortly after this the Grand Duke Charles Frederick died, and was succeeded by his son, Charles Alexander, who, remembering the noble proposition of King Louis, wrote to his Majesty, and solicited his aid in carrying out the project he had been the first to propose. The King replied that he should only be too proud to assist in doing honour to those who were so great an honour to Germany, and begged that he might be allowed to contribute the bronze for the statues of Goethe, Schiller, and Wieland.

The project now took shape, and subscriptions were opened in almost every town in Germany. The Court at Weimar subscribed largely; princes and merchants, rich and poor, contributed their portion. The Emperor Napoleon sent £80 to Liszt as a personal homage to the genius of Schiller. The erection of statues was never so royally encouraged. Rietschel, the Dresden sculptor, was selected to execute the statues of Goethe and Schiller. He has appropriately represented them grasping the same crown of laurel. Gasser of Vienna was commissioned to execute that of Wieland; the inauguration of which attracted a large number of people. It was uncovered in the presence of the ducal family amid shouts of applause; the sculptor was summoned to receive the congratulations of the Grand Duke. But to describe the enthusiasm of the people when the statues of Goethe and Schiller were uncovered would



STATUES OF GOETHE AND SCHILLER, RECENTLY ERECTED AT WEIMAR.

be impossible. The air was rent with their acclamations. This work has greatly added to the fame of the artist; and moreover has earned for him the cross of a Commander of the Order of the Falcon. The burgo-master of Weimar presented both sculptors with the freedom of the town, which may well be proud of the memory of the poets, whose genius is admired and whose names are treasured by every nation in Europe.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW.

The Birmingham Fat Cattle and Poultry Show, as we have already said, was one of the most successful ever held; whether in cattle, sheep, pigs, or poultry, the exhibition contained some first-rate specimens. Among the cattle, Herefords, shorthorns, and Devons were best represented; while the Shropshire Downs, among sheep, carried away the palm; but there were also some beautiful Leicesters and Southdowns, and a few good Cotswolds. In pigs, the show was very superior this year, the prizes going off to the Cumberland, Yorkshire, and Windsor kinds.

Our attention, however, was chiefly directed to the poultry show, which was especially good. The Dorkings carried all before them. In size, condition, and plumage, they were, as a whole, equally remarkable. The Spanish, too, were very fine, but perhaps no variety has been so rapidly improved as this. They have gained in size, closeness of feather, and, judging from their generally robust appearance, in vigour of constitution.

The Hamburgs were not so good, perhaps not above the respectable; the golden-spangled variety manifested the greatest improvement, but the entries were very scanty. Nor were the Cochins in great force. Their cultivators are labouring to retrieve their fallen fortunes, but success is distant, we fear. Of the several varieties of Polish there was a full average collection. The golden deserved the preference, perhaps, in the aggregate, although examples of the highest individual excellence were to be met with among the silver-spangled. There was also a fair proportion of those elegant and consequential little creatures, the Bantams.

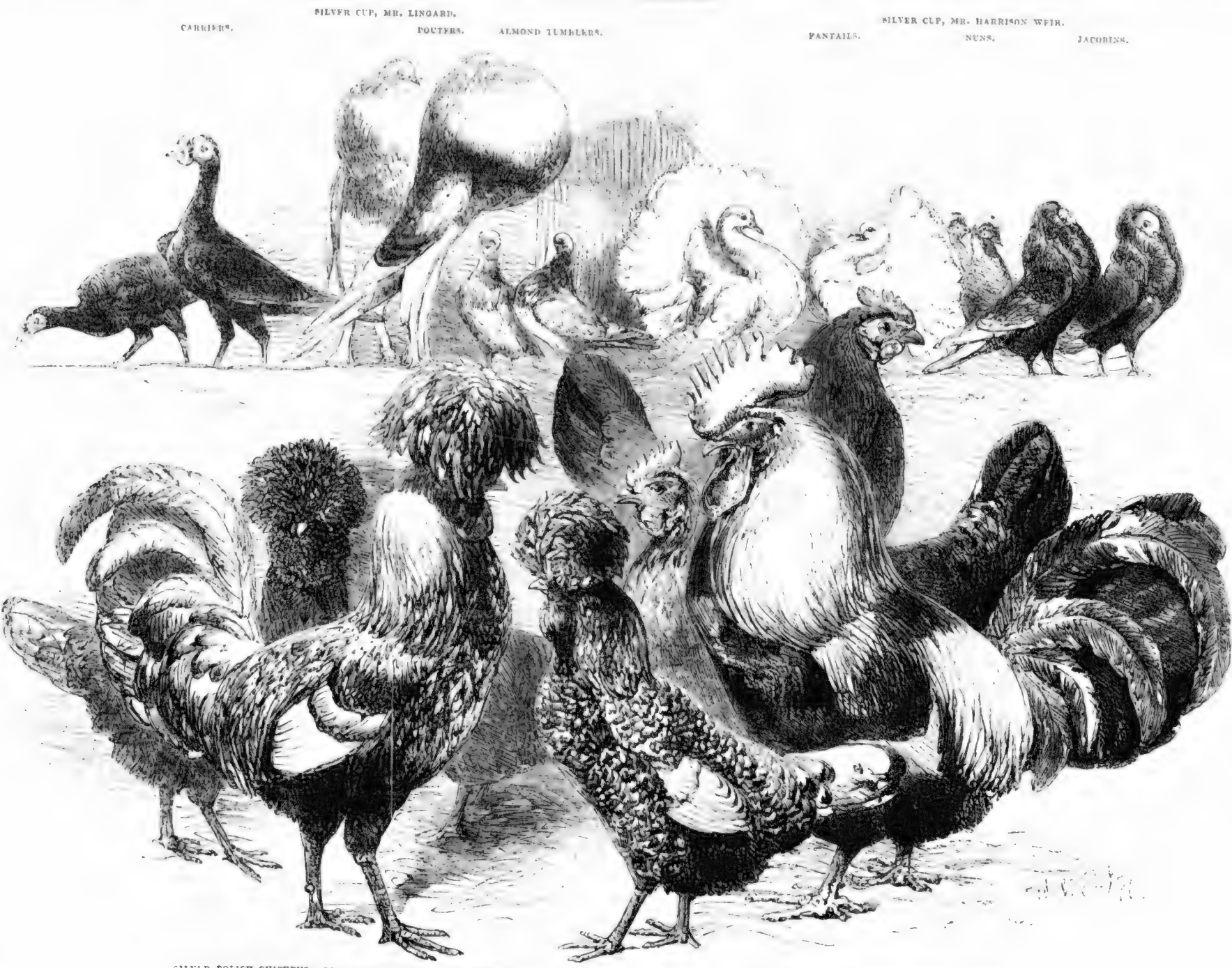
Of the geese, the gray and mottled kinds carried away the palm, the prize pen weighing sixty-two pounds, the difference between that and the third on the list being only four pounds. The best pen of Aylesbury ducks weighed twenty-nine pounds, the highest weight of the Rouens being twenty-four pounds. Amongst the turkeys there was some falling off. The pen to which the silver plate was adjudicated weighed seventy-two pounds.

The exhibition of pigeons was as usual highly attractive, and contained many beautiful and valuable specimens.

A REMINISCENCE OF THE MANCHESTER ART TREASURES EXHIBITION.

A GROUP OF EARLY PORTRAITS.

Of all the varied contents of this valuable Exhibition, which has now become a matter of history, there were none calculated to excite a deeper interest in the mind of the visitor than the noble series of historical portraits got together under the direction of Mr. Peter Cunningham. Their value as mere pictures was of no account compared to their importance as re-



SILVER POLISH CHICKENS.—FIRST PRIZE, MR. PARKINS JONES.

PRIZE PIGEONS AND FOWLS FROM THE BIRMINGHAM POULTRY SHOW.

DORKINGS.—SILVER PLATE, CAPTAIN HOBNEY.

presentations of the personal appearance of those famous men and women whose careers are so intimately associated with the brightest and the darkest passages in our national annals, and we regret that we did not at the time present our readers with a series of examples from the interesting gallery.

The earliest English portrait which the Exhibition could boast of was nothing less than the earliest which this country possesses—namely, the portrait of Richard II. from the Jerusalem Chamber at Westminster. The original picture very much resembles a portrait from some missal magnified to a gigantic scale. The monarch is represented seated in a chair of state, wearing the crown, and holding in his hands the ensigns of royalty. The face is full and smooth, the nose straight, and the features regular. He is attired in a crimson robe, embroidered with the cipher R, surmounted with a crown. The shoulders are covered with a cape of ermine, and red pointed shoes peep from under the robe. The background of the picture, the surface of which was originally refulgent with gold, is worked up in arabesque, the head and hands of the King being let into the smooth face of the canvas, after the manner observable in the paintings in the Greek churches. The picture, considering its great age, is in fine condition.

The portrait of Richard III. was certainly one of the most noteworthy in the entire gallery, not only on account of the interest which attaches to the history of this much-maligned King, but from the circumstance that no reasonable doubt exists as to its authenticity. The countenance at first sight is not displeasing, but on closer examination the spectator is generally inclined to believe that popular prejudice has not libelled the original of it. The face wears a sinister expression, the eyes are deep set, the lips thin and compressed, the brow wrinkled, and the attitude feline. The hair, which is worn long, falls over the neck; and on the head is a black cap, with a jewel. A black silk robe, slashed with white and gold, completes the costume. Richard was evidently fond of setting off his person with a profusion of jewellery. Round his neck he wears a broad gold chain, a ring on the thumb, and two similar ornaments on the third and fourth fingers of the left hand. There is, of course, no appearance of hump on the shoulders or other deformity, as the Court painter of the day, like others of more recent times, had no doubt received a hint to make his Majesty appear to the best advantage. The portrait is inscribed at the top of the panel, "Ricardus III., Ang. Rex." This very valuable painting is the property of Mr. J. Gibson-Craig.



RICHARD III.—(FROM THE PICTURE IN THE POSSESSION OF J. GIBSON CRAIG, ESQ.)

The next picture in order of those we have selected, is the half-length portrait of Queen Jane Seymour, wife of Henry VIII. and mother of Edward VI. Jane appears to have had a pale, pecky-looking face, dark blue eyes, thin upper lip, aquiline nose, and slight double chin. She is attired in a ruby velvet dress, with flowing sleeves of gold net-work. A necklace of emeralds and rubies is ostentatiously exposed, and a gold ornament rests on the bosom, with the letters I. H. S. in precious stones. Jane was not unlike Anne of Cleves. The portrait is from the gallery at Woburn.

The noble picture of Sir Henry Guildford, Master of the Horse to Henry VIII., is said to be the finest example of Holbein's skill in England. Sir Henry could not exactly boast of that which Lord Chesterfield has termed the "best letter of recommendation"—a prepossessing exterior. Dark and truculent he looks, as if he could have done the behests of his master without a scruple as to consequences. He is attired in a black velvet doublet, embroidered with gold, and wears the Order of the Garter. The portrait, from Windsor Castle, is signed on the panel—"Anno D. MCCCCXXVII, Etatis sue XLIX."

By far the most interesting of the group which we have here engraved, is the small panel picture by the celebrated John de Mabuse, of whose "Adoration of the Magi" we published an illustration in No. 119. The present work represents the three children of Henry VII.—namely, Arthur Prince of Wales, Prince Henry, and the Princess Margaret, afterwards wife of James IV. of Scotland. The royal children are represented seated at a table, covered with a green cloth, playing with some fruit. Nothing can be more characteristic and natural than their expressions and attitudes. In the child Henry, we fancy we can detect some of that hastiness of temper and obstinacy of will for which he was so noted in after years. The picture is from the collection of the Earl of Pembroke, and there are duplicates at Hampton Court, Longford Castle, and Corsham, the residence of Lord Methuen.

WHAT A STORM IS TO A FISHING VILLAGE.

THE recent gale on the Scotch coast provided a melancholy picture of the perils in which fishermen earn, and their children eat, their bread at Buckie. The tempest was nearly at its full height by two o'clock, and, as the boats came each in sight, there was a shriek, while the utmost anxiety prevailed till they were each ashore and the men landed, everyone providing himself with ropes and whatever could be supposed likely to be useful in putting forth efforts to save life. Great as the danger of landing was, four boats came in at the Sauters in safety, and the people on shore had almost begun to hope that all their friends might yet be rescued. But, about half-past two o'clock, a fifth boat, like the others, without a stitch of canvas, came in sight. This one was pretty far west, and was expected to land in the Neck, opposite New Buckie. Tossed mountains high



RICHARD II.—(FROM THE PICTURE BELONGING TO THE DEAN AND CHAPTER OF WESTMINSTER.)



QUEEN JANE SEYMOUR.—(FROM THE PICTURE, BY HOLBEIN, IN THE POSSESSION OF THE DUKE OF BEDFORD.)

at one moment, and the next down between the gigantic waves, all out of sight but the top of the masts, she came along in much the same circumstances as the others. She had come so near that the men on board were perfectly well recognised by their friends on shore, among whom there were wives in the very depths of anxiety to rescue their husbands from the angry deep, fathers to rescue their sons, brother to welcome brother. Within a hundred yards of the shore, a tremendous sea all at once threw the boat on her broadside, and turned her right over, the crew, of course, being all cast into the water. The crowd on shore, as if thunderstruck, held up their hands, and cried and shrieked, many of them in perfect distraction. The scene was heartrending. Three of the men were never seen. Two seemed to get on the bottom of the boat, but one very shortly disappeared. The other one, however, stood up on his feet, and put his hands in his waistcoat, near the buttons, from which act it was supposed he was preparing to strip and be in readiness to swim. The interest of those on shore in seeing him in his perilous position will be more easily imagined than described, as will also the grief of his friends, when they saw the first heavy sea wash him away from the footing he had gained, and, in its rolling fury, apparently hide him for ever. The remaining three of the eight who were on board also disappeared for a little, but in a short time they were seen floating about on spars and pieces of the masts; and hope still existed that rescue might be extended to them. They were driven from one point to another with fearful velocity, and indeed were only now and again visible. For fully twenty minutes they floated about in this situation, latterly coming within about twenty yards of where the people were standing—so near that, had the sea been ordinarily calm, hundreds were there who would have considered it no difficult task to go into the water and give them their hand. One man cried to his son to put his hair away from his eyes, when, by the motion the latter made, it was evident he heard quite distinctly. Two or three different times he obeyed, putting up his hand and rubbing his hair over his forehead. An anxious wife actually rushed into the tide nearly to the neck, in an endeavour to rescue her husband, but her heroic effort was completely unavailing. The tide was ebbing at the time, but the waves, in terrible force, rushed far up on the beach, and swept back again with fearful power. No one could keep a footing in it. Attempts were made to join hands, and thus extend help to the unfortunate men, but besides the weight of the water itself, the backgoing of the



SIR HENRY GUILDFORD.—(FROM THE PICTURE, BY HOLBEIN, IN THE POSSESSION OF THE QUEEN.)

waves hurled the gravel beach from below their feet, so that to stand on it was impossible. Whilst these vain efforts were being made at rescue, the men, worn out in the raging surf, sank, one after another, amid the cries and shrieks of their despairing relatives.

PICTURE OF A DOMESTIC INTERIOR.

THE "Times" makes the following very faithful picture of home in 1857:—"A man of business in London, a lawyer, a merchant, especially with the modern passion for houses in the country, sees for months together next to nothing of his own home. This is the general complaint. The lady says: 'I see nothing of my husband. He swallows his breakfast, rushes off to his office or to chambers, is there all day, comes back at seven or eight perfectly tired out, gives, throws himself into an arm-chair, and goes to sleep.' That is, we believe, the picture of many a domestic interior; and the more flourishing the concern, the more clients there are, or the more customers there are, the more letters there are, the more messages from the telegraph-office there are, or the more business there is to do on the Exchange, the more is this the regular order of the day. This is what goes on day after day in many an elegant, luxurious villa, within six or seven miles of London, backed by spacious outhouses and coachhouses, surrounded by well-shaven lawns, and embosomed in garden trees. The lady has carriages, horses, and servants in abundance at command; she sees plenty of neighbours, and more than she likes of them; she is tired to death with talking to them; but she only sees her husband either actually asleep or just going to sleep. And this tendency of things is greatly assisted by railways, the impartial good offices of which afford facilities for all kinds of arrangements, good, bad, and indifferent. When Nature, for example, ordained the estate of matrimony, she obviously did not mean that the husband should live practically in London, and the wife and family at Brighton. That is to a certain degree a departure from her design. She did not contemplate a journey of 60 miles at each end of the domestic day, with the whole day in London between. She did not picture to herself a husband getting more and more irritable every day, from the constant wear and tear of railway travelling, and the bad effect of the perpetual motion on the brain, unable to bear the least noise when he gets to his marine drawing-room, sending all the children out of the room immediately, and just tolerating the sound of his wife's voice, if it is only very occasional, very gentle and soft, and communicating nothing which it requires the slightest exertion of mind to answer.



HENRY (AFTERWARDS HENRY VIII.). ARTHUR, PRINCE OF WALES. MARGARET, WIFE OF JAMES IV.

THE THREE CHILDREN OF HENRY VII.—(FROM THE PICTURE, BY MABUSE, IN THE POSSESSION OF THE EARL OF PEMBROKE.)

A CONFERENCE OF THE MARITIME POWERS OF EUROPE will shortly be held in London, to discuss the African emigration scheme, and its bearing upon the African slave trade.

LAW AND CRIME.

THE theft of the Countess of Ellesmere's jewels has occasioned a confession by one of the culprits, which will be found detailed in another column, and which furnishes, perhaps, one of the most singular pages in the annals of modern crime. The style of the confession will probably remind most persons who may happen to have read both of Defoe's marvellous "History of Colonel Jack." The story is, moreover, suggestive in other respects. It shows that three professional thieves set out in company from Whitechapel to the West End—that is, from one extreme of London to the other—for the purpose, as Atwell frankly tells us, of "committing a felony." They are not interfered with, or even watched in any way by the police, although on arriving at Grosvenor Square they all run in chase of two cabs and a carriage, which they follow until a third, higher less frequented than usual affords an opportunity for removing a trunk from one of the vehicles. This trunk is captured, carried for some distance along the street, taken into another cab, again shouldered when near the end of its journey, and again carried through the street to the shop of a receiver. The slightest interruption on the part of the police must have led to detection, inasmuch as the name of the Countess was inscribed upon the trunk in conspicuous letters. It is found upon being opened to contain jewellery and other articles to the estimated value of about a hundred and fifty thousand pounds. There is no plan or cunning whatever displayed about the theft. The fellows have nothing to do but to take the box, and they take it. And here arises, naturally, the most curious speculation involved in the affair. Two cabs and a carriage are employed to transport the Countess's property. There must therefore have been at least three persons, servants or others, accompanying its legitimate transmission. And yet this very box, containing valuables sufficient to make half-a-dozen families at least wealthy, is to be rattled through the street on the top of a hired cab! It is not to be put inside—it is not to be strapped or fastened—it is not even to be placed above the private-carriage, and the driver is not to be cautioned as to the preciousness of his charge. Where was John Thomas, with the calves, and whiskers, and powdered hair? Inside one of the cabs, you may be sure, just because there he would be more useless than anywhere else. He is only to ride behind the carriage when there is nothing to contemplate upon the roof. He is of too delicately-trained an organisation, of too refined an intellect, to be forced to ride outside a common cab, to listen to the coarse conversation of the driver, and to keep an eye upon the luggage. The sweet solace of the company of the housemaid, inside the vehicle, is more to his taste; and this must be considered, though a princely fortune be risked by deference to his habits. We have no sympathy with a loss experienced under such circumstances. On the contrary, although where such a robbery occurs the penalty may be considered sufficiently heavy, we would rather say that those guilty of such gross carelessness, and not losing their property, deserve to be punished for the facilities thereby afforded for the commission of crime.

Mr. Nairn, a merchant of Trinity Square, was charged before the Lord Mayor with stealing a cheque. He had been given into custody and bailed at the Station-house. It appeared from the evidence, that a Mr. Smith, father of the prosecutor, had on Friday week filed his schedule for protection in the Insolvent Court. The defendant (for the Lord Mayor objected to the term "prisoner" as soon as the charge began to be developed) was a creditor of the insolvent, and having met his (Smith's) son with a cheque for £8 2s. 6d., which the young man had just received for his father, insisted upon its being given up to himself, for the creditors. It was delivered to him upon his giving an undertaking to hand it over when called for. These facts were proved in the course of the prosecutor's own case, whereupon the Lord Mayor indignantly declared the prosecution to be one of the most monstrous cases ever brought before him, said that the defendant was entitled to the thanks of the creditors for having protected their property, and added his opinion for the benefit of a legal gentleman engaged in the case, that it was disgraceful for any solicitor to undertake such a case. The solicitor replied, that he was bound to undertake any case brought to him, a proposition which the Lord Mayor denied, and added, "no respectable solicitor would undertake such a case as this," an observation which obtained applause from the hearers. The rule stated by the solicitor, we beg to add, is not correct. No legal practitioner is bound in any way to carry on a case in which his client is clearly in the wrong, or to undertake, for that matter, any business whatever. If all of them were to act as the more respectable among them do, and resolutely decline all cases not obviously founded upon law and justice, the profession might bear a better name than it does at present.

On Saturday last Mr. Combe committed for trial an attorney named Bingham, upon a charge of perjury, preferred by Stowell, formerly known as a common informer, and lately discharged from prison at the expiration of a sentence upon a similar charge. Stowell's evidence in the present case was that he and Bingham had established relations whereby Stowell was represented as Bingham's clerk, and introduced him into business upon the understanding that the fees were to be divided. Stowell's evidence was corroborated by the summoning officer of the Lambeth County Court, who had been "introduced" by Stowell to Bingham, also by a gentleman who had paid money to Stowell as Bingham's clerk, and at his request. The picture thus displayed affords a curious illustration of the way in which a certain class of "business" is conducted. The alleged perjury consisted in the evidence given by Bingham upon Stowell's late prosecution, that the prisoner was not his clerk. By the way, it is to be observed that the police-court reporter evidently knows the prisoner, whom he is particular in styling throughout "Mr. Bingham," and whom he takes care to inform his readers was after the committal "instantly bailed out."

Aldermen have occasionally done funny things, even long since, nearly two centuries ago, when they formed the staple butt of the comic dramatists of the period. The last aldermanic game reads like a burlesque upon the historical episode of Brutus. One of Alderman Copeland's carmen went inside a house and left his cart outside; whereupon somebody applied for a summons against the man. The other aldermen would not grant it against a servant of their own comrade, but upright Alderman Copeland, with a classic heroism worthy of ancient Rome, himself signed the fatal document. But the joke was yet to come. The brother alderman who heard the case, was so struck by this magnanimous example of strict justice that he profited by it, and fined the man. Hereupon Alderman Copeland's patriotism broke down altogether. He grew wroth, and gave notice of appeal forthwith!

If lawyers were but liable to serve on juries, much of the oppression of that system would probably not long exist. The hardship to a tradesman of being compelled to neglect his business at intervals, not for a day or two only, but for sometimes weeks at a stretch, in order to decide the disputes of other people, is almost intolerable. Calm deliberation and passionless justice is scarcely to be expected from men kept away from their own lawful concerns to be half-starved and bored to death in a box. Several complaints upon the subject have been made to us. One friend points out a capital "dodge," often practicable, for escape at an early hour. It is always to insist upon "retiring," and never to agree until a new jury is sworn in. When this is done (it occasions, by the way, some considerable loss of public time and unnecessary anxiety to the parties to the suit), the party who have to give the verdict are always at liberty, at least until the conclusion of the next case. We have also had furnished to us a curious detail of the cruelty practised in the retiring room. At the session just passed the jury entered their retiring-room, and were delighted at finding there a good fire, and a decanter of water. Their cheerfulness was soon at an end when the officer advanced, seized the decanter, and poured the contents upon the fire, extinguishing it utterly! Three of them were for a verdict of £50 damages, in the case just heard, and nine for one of £150. Under the circumstances the minority gave way readily; but whether justice was thereby done, we (perhaps not only because the action happened to be against the "Illustrated Times") beg leave temperately to express a doubt.

Mr. James Edward Stephens, formerly manager of the London and Eastern Banking Corporation, has been examined in bankruptcy, according to the Scotch practice, at Edinburgh. As might have been expected, the points of examination related entirely to business conducted by the bankrupt in London. The examination being of an extensive character, was adjourned. By means of this case, public attention has been directed

towards the absurdity of allowing a trader, whose transactions have been carried on in England, to cross the border, and there, after a brief residence, to be enabled to force his antagonistic creditors to follow him, should they desire to expose his misdoings, into another country gave out by different laws and by proceedings carried on under different forms of practice. Moreover, to this is added the imperfect notice which the creditors receive, and the difficulty (which cunning debtors can easily augment) of identification of the debtor.

ALLEGED POISONING AND FORGERY.

MR. THOMAS MONK, senior alderman of the Corporation of Preston, a borough and county magistrate, a deputy-justice of the county, a trustee for the Corporation charities, sergeant to the 3rd Lancashire Militia, and who served the office of mayor of Preston in 1851-2, has been apprehended on a charge of murdering a person named Edward Turner, and of uttering a forged document purporting to be the will of the deceased. The evidence at the inquest goes to show that Turner, who was an old man, was taken ill, early in September, with symptoms similar to a bowel complaint, and was attended by Mr. Monk, who ordered him first some medicine which purged him severely, and afterwards some that made him very sick. His thirst was intense, and he drank a "sight of stuff" night and day, and perspired freely. He rambled in his talk, and fancied there were ducks and women in the room. At one time he objected to take some of the medicine, which tasted "hot and sharp." On the day Turner died, he said to his housekeeper, "Alice, there is something wrong with me." When she again went into his room, after a brief absence he said, "Oh, Alice!" "crushed down, and died" in her arms. Two men were in the room at the time.

The doctor came in the evening, and asked the housekeeper for the keys, which she gave him. He took away the books and some papers. Next day the doctor gave directions about the funeral, which took place on the Sunday. After tea, on the Sunday, the doctor put the silver spoons in his pocket. Turner's niece wanted them, but the doctor said she was nothing to Turner. There was no will read. Alice Chadwick, from whose evidence we have condensed the above, proceeded to say, "On the Monday, the doctor came and ransacked the desk. He never mentioned a will to me. He took everything out of the desk, which was sold with the other furniture on the Thursday after. The bottles were picked up by Mr. Monk, and sent to his surgery by a boy. Before my master's death, the doctor came down stairs, and said, 'Alice, your master thinks well of you.' After the deceased's death, I went to Mr. Monk's surgery to ask him for some money. He showed me a will, and said there was three shillings a week for me. He said also, that Turner was not worth as much money as people thought, and that he had left something for his goddaughter. I asked how long the three shillings a week was left for me, and Mr. Monk said till the money was done. My master said many a time that I should be provided for. I knew Mr. Turner had written something in a book, which he showed to Mr. Baines, about two years ago; but he never said to me that he had made a will. Baines said, 'You have thought of your housekeeper?' That book was one of those removed by Mr. Monk."

The deposition of this witness was read over, and the inquest was adjourned till the 11th instant, in order to give time for Dr. Taylor to analyse the contents of deceased's stomach. Two hours after, Mr. Monk was taken into custody, and charged with forging the will. The case was heard at the Town Hall, when the Rev. Thomas Clarke, surrogate, said—"On Saturday morning, the 26th of September, Mr. Monk came to my house, and said that a man named Turner was dead. I think he did not mention his Christian name. He said that money was wanted to pay the workmen's wages that night, and that the bank declined giving him any money without proper authority on his part to receive it. He said that no will could be found, or words to that effect. Mr. Monk also said that that no relations were known, or were likely to be heard of, and that therefore letters of administration could be granted to him as the principal creditor, or a principal creditor. He said he had had repeated conversations with the deceased, and knew exactly what he wished to do with the money. The housekeeper was to have five shillings a week as long as she lived. He would take care, if letters of administration were granted to him, that all was done according to the wish of the deceased. I said that in such cases nothing could be done by a surrogate without consulting the Consistory Court at Lancaster. Mr. Monk wished me to do so on the following Tuesday morning. Mr. Monk came again between ten and twelve o'clock, and I told him I had received a communication from Lancaster. Without listening to the result, he observed, 'It is of no consequence what the answer is; a will has been found.' The will was put into my hand. I administered the usual executor's oath to Mr. Monk, as sole surviving executor, and he signed the affidavit of value, which went to Lancaster along with the will. The purport of the oath was, that he believed that that was the last will and testament of Edward Turner; that he would well and truly execute the will; and that the personal estate and effects were under the value of £100. I afterwards received from Lancaster the probate of the will, which Mr. Monk called for. I gave it to him, and he paid the charges."

Robert Farnworth, a readmaker, who was employed by Mr. Turner, said that he had seen Turner write "many a hundred times," and was sure that the signature to the will was not his handwriting.

Joseph Wilkinson was called, and sworn the will. He said—"I look at the signature, 'Joseph Wilkinson,' and the word 'Preston,' to this document. It is not in my handwriting. I never attested a will or other document for Mr. Turner. I never saw him write. He never spoke to me about a will. I don't know any other Joseph Wilkinson in Preston."

Ann Edna Pine, the wife of a hairdresser, who gave her evidence with great emotion, was subsequently examined. She acknowledged to having written the body of the will, down to the name of "James Holden," one of the supposed witnesses. She said that she had occasion to call on the prisoner one morning, when he asked her if she had time to copy a paper. He gave her directions to write large "like a man." She made the copy accordingly, and identified the will alleged to be forged as that document. She could not say positively in whose handwriting the paper was that she copied from.

The following is the substance of the will—"I order and direct: my executors to pay to my housekeeper Alice Chadwick the sum of Three Shillings per week, and all the rest residue and remainder of my real and personal estate I give absolutely to Thomas Monk Surgeon of Preston in the County of Lancaster and I appoint Thomas Clark Iron and Brass Founder of Preston and Thomas Monk Surgeon both in the County of Lancaster to be my Executors under this my last Will and Testament." The will was duly signed and witnessed by "James Holden" and "Joseph Wilkinson." Mr. Clark, who is appointed an executor in this document, is dead.

The prisoner was committed for trial.

ANOTHER CASE OF CRUELTY ON BOARD SHIP.

THE American ship *Ophelia* was about to leave Greenock for New Orleans. Some new hands had been taken on board; among others, a young man named Lovell. We are told by a Glasgow paper that Lovell had no sooner got on deck, than Lewis, the second mate, struck him a savage blow on the face, a blow told him. Another new hand, Fraser, not obeying an order with that alacrity expected by a smart American, assisted this time by the first mate, Sawyer, set upon him and dragged him out of the fore-castle and along the decks; Lewis, his fists armed with "knuckle-dusters," cut open the seaman's head; when he fell, both the gallant officers kicked him violently. The poor fellow sprang to his feet, gained the ship's side, leaped into the water, and made for H.M.S. Wellington, which lay at anchor a mile and a-half off, nearer Greenock. He was picked up by a boy, however, and taken on board the *Ophelia* again. Lewis, holding a revolver in his hand, ordered the seaman to be put in irons, declaring that if any man encouraged Fraser to resist, he would shoot him. At this intimation, Fraser sprang into the main-rigging, and was about to leap overboard, when Sawyer cried to Lewis to shoot him. Already, it seems, this gentleman had fired at a man who had ventured to express his disapprobation of these proceedings; but before he could repeat the attempt, another of the crew pulled down his arm.

A number of the crew now sided with Fraser, and they hoisted a blue shirt on to the fore lift, as a signal to H.M.S. Wellington that some of the seamen wanted to volunteer into her Majesty's service, which they could do without incurring penalties for desertion. The Wellington, however, paid no attention to the signal. On the afternoon of the same day the two men, Fraser and Freeman, got on shore, and reported the case to the Procurator-Fiscal; and the mates of the *Ophelia* were apprehended.

THE BRAMHALL MURDER.—This case came on for trial this week at the Chester Assizes; but as we have received no complete report at the time at which we are compelled to go to press with our first edition, we postpone any detailed notice of the case till next week.

THE MURDER AT GILTON.—James Wright, a farmer, was indicted at Nottingham for the murder of William Holland, at Gilton. It will be remembered that these men had a quarrel as to the ownership of a crop of clover, and that while Holland was cutting the clover Wright came forward with a gun and shot him in the leg. The limb was afterwards taken off, but Holland died; and two surgeons gave it as their opinion that the same result must have followed without surgical interference. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter, and the prisoner was sentenced to penal servitude for life.

THE BOLTON MURDER.—Aaron Mellor has been sentenced to death at Liverpool, for the murder of his wife Alice. The convict and his wife had lived very unhappily together, and they at length separated. He afterwards went to her mother's house, and begged her to return with him; she consented; but on the way they again quarrelled, and he knocked her down and cut her throat.

THE MURDER OF THE CITY DETECTIVE.—Charles Thain, a detective officer, who was shot while conveying a prisoner from Hamburg to London, died last week. A Coroner's jury, after hearing the evidence in the case, returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against Christian Sattler.

THE ROBBERY OF LADY ELLESMERE'S JEWELS.

An extraordinary confession, extraordinary both as to the nature of the facts related, and the manner in which the circumstances are told, was brought forward at the hearing of this case, on Friday, the 11th inst., at Westminster. A man named Jackson, a native of America, and who was taken into the bar with his wife, charged a witness with receiving the proceeds of a robbery from the Countess of Ellesmere. A short prisoner named Atwell, who was with being convicted in the robbery. The prisoner, Jackson, confessed a confession above referred to, which is included in the 18th case. Atwell's promise that Atwell's confession in no manner upon any charge against Atwell was taken by reading them from his book.

On the 22nd of January, 1855, says Mr. Atwell, I was with Jackson, at the London Bridge to Hungerford Pier, with the intention of committing a robbery. I am not well acquainted with the West End of London, but I think it was near Grosvenor Square that we were two men, both in a carriage behind with two horses. Atwell said, "I have a plan, my friend, for making money. We will commence our run along the road, and we will follow them up a street with a dead wall on our side. The first person we follow, and then they arrived in a square, the carriage stopped on the right, and the cabs to the left. On the right end of the square was a large old black portmanteau. I saw Witty's intention, and asked, 'Which are you going to take?' He said, 'The big one.' He jumped up on the back of the portmanteau, pulled it off, it fell in the road, and he so heavy that he fell on it. The cab driver, the cab reared up. I said, 'You have "tumbled" it, now, about the neck of the man.'"

The man, however, appears to have been less imprudent than the witness was driving; for Atwell then adds, "We looked up, and all was right—nothing went on." The thieves procured a cab on their own account, and drove to a beer shop in Leonard Street, Shoreditch, where they dismissed the driver, and one of them shouldering the portmanteau took it as an ordinary article of business to Mr. Jackson, the respectable citizen.

"A customer was there, and I Atwell said to Jackson, 'Mr. Jackson, I have your luggage,' he took it off my back, but if under the counter a customer had been, I should have said, 'Yes, sir,' and walked out of the shop. When the customer came out, Witty and I walked in. The portmanteau was at the end of the table. Mrs. Jackson was there. Jackson pulled it out and said, 'Open it, Bill.' I said, 'Stop a minute; no more business; Sam's down the street.'"

Mr. Jackson evidently knew his customer, as well as the customer knew Mr. Jackson. The little touch about "no business" is a remarkable one.

"I noticed the name of the Countess of Ellesmere pointed in white chalk on the top of the box, and I said, 'This lady is almost next to the Queen.' Atwell said, 'That,' said Jackson, 'I have you have got something good.' We sat for an hour, and then Sam came in. Jackson again said, 'Open it, Bill.' I said, 'I have opened the straps, and found it was locked. I tried to force the lock.'"

After an oath or two, the second mate continued to destroy the lock, and the portmanteau was opened. A quantity of lady's dresses was examined, and Mr. Jackson, the wife of the Shoreditch Grindoff, expressed her delight at the "nice things." Then came a bracelet, at which one of the thieves exclaimed, "Joe, this is gold!" then a coronet for a lady's hair, then some jewels, a Bible, some miscellaneous articles of female attire, and some more of the same kind. The oilman's wife thought "the lady then things belonged to a lady, a fashionable woman;" and on the strength of this impression purchased a small shawl of the thieves for 2s., and a diamond brooch (initially patterned) for more, intending, no doubt, to excite the envy of Shoreditch by the display of these adornments upon her own person. Atwell, thinking his companion was disposing of these articles too cheaply, interposed with, "Joe, you are not about" to which Joe, with a mainly contempt for female vanity, replied indignantly, "Let the woman have it." Upon this, Atwell continued, "I said, 'I will not let any more go at that price; and with that I tied all the jewellery in a handkerchief. We said about 50s. worth of dresses and shawls to Jackson, the grocer, for 5s. He said, 'I don't want any more of them things; I would know what to do with them.' Witty pulled off a large white apron he wore round him, and tied up as many as it would hold. He asked Mrs. Jackson to take care of the remainder, including a pair of gowns, as they would do for a woman. I had the jewellery in my coat pocket." Jackson said, "What is the standing price of them?" Witty said, "£10." Witty said to me, 'Give them to him, Bill.' Jackson said, 'Come in the morning, and I will send for a man to see what they are.' It was then seven o'clock at night. I said, 'There is a man on the box; what is to be done with that?' Jackson replied, 'I will soon get the "man" (a slang term for a name, founded upon an inversion of "man's name") out of that.' He began scraping the name with a knife. Sam put up his shoulder, and we all went out together towards Worship Street. The box was taken down a narrow passage to where there were houses with gardens in front, and it was left in a garden. Sam then said, 'Let us go and find Sam Brittain.' The statement here describes a search for Brittain at various public-houses, and their being joined by a man named "Californy;" their subsequently finding Brittain, and selling the amount of the dresses to him for £3, after asking £15; then going to a man named Welch in a court in Spital Street, and disposing of the loose diamonds and blue drops to him for 5s. The following morning after this, about two o'clock, Witty, Saint, and Atwell again went to Jackson's, as appointed by the prisoner, and the purchase was completed. "Witty said to me, 'Go in Bill, and do not take less than £10.' I left Saint and Witty outside. Jackson said he had sent after a man to look at the things, but the man had not come, adding, 'You can have £10 if you like.' I took ten sovereigns that he gave me, and he told me to come at two o'clock. I joined Saint and Witty, went into Shoreditch and purchased a coat, met Welch, and we all walked about till two o'clock, when I again went to Jackson, leaving Witty, Welch, and Saint outside. I saw an old man going in. Jackson said, 'Come in about an hour; the man has just come.' We left, went to a public-house, played at skittles, had pepper and salt port wine, and went to Jackson again, leaving Witty, Welch, and Saint in the skittle-ground. Jackson said, 'I want them loose things; they won't be complete without we have them.' I said, 'They are sold for a dollar,' and Jackson gave me 5s. to get them back. I returned to Welch, and gave him 5s. for the things we had sold to him—namely, the loose diamonds and the blue drops. I took them to Jackson. He said, 'Now, come again in an hour.' I did, and he then gave me thirty sovereigns. I divided the money with Saint and Witty, Welch, Witty, Saint, and myself, then went to Petticoat Lane."

The alleged receiver, Jackson, when himself in custody, throws some further light upon the fate of some of the missing articles. He says—"I saw the gold being melted, and the diamonds being sorted into different cuts, or different sizes put together." The police officer showed him a bill offering the reward of £500, and he pointed to an emerald drop and a diamond bow mentioned therein, and he said, "Those were thrown down a water-closet in Spitafields, I don't know where; but if you will let me out of here I will try and find out."

He also said that the emerald and diamond necklace, mentioned in the same bill, was sold, whole as it was, to a Jew, who lived in a first-floor in Bishopsgate Street, for £300; and that a pair of diamond ear-drops were thrown away in a field near Whitechapel. He after vards added, "I am convicted I intend to tell all about it. I intended to have done so before if I had been convicted last time."

Witty said the box was brought in that night I told them to take it away; but they said they had carried it far enough, and did not intend to carry it any further. They took it into the parlour and began to break it open. When opened, we took out the theatrical dresses. The wearing apparel was taken away in a black bag, and the jewellery in a red handkerchief."

The depositions were taken, and the prisoners committed for trial.

COMMITTAL OF THE CAPTAIN AND MATE OF THE ELIZABETH.—On Saturday morning the captain and mate of the *Elizabeth*, charged with causing the death of Rodriguez, a Spanish sailor, during the voyage from New Calabar, were examined before the stipendiary magistrate at Liverpool and committed for trial—the captain for manslaughter, and the mate for assault.

A YOUNG WOMAN, the wife of a chemist's assistant, left her home on Wednesday week, saying, "There are two children; I will take one, and you will take the other." She went to Victoria Park, and, with her child in her arms, jumped into the bathing-pool. Before they were got out they were drowned.

STATISTICS OF CRIME.—A recent investigation into the statistics of crime furnishes us with some valuable information. Last year, it appears, the total number of commitments was 19,437; in 1855, the number stood at 25,922, and in 1854 at 29,359. In the ten years ending 1846, the total number of commitments was 262,948, while in the decennial period ending 1856, the number was 771,094. During these two periods, the population has increased nearly thirty per cent., while the rate of increase of crime has been but little more than three per cent. Various alterations have no doubt been made in the laws, which affect, more or less, the number of commitments; among others, the acts which give summary jurisdiction in certain cases to the police magistrates; but they do not materially affect the gratifying proof afforded by these returns of the decrease of crime in the country. Several curious facts in connection with crime are elicited by these returns. Thus, during the last year, the number of sentences of death passed was greater than had been the case for several previous years. The crimes of Palmer and Dove had rendered the year 1856 memorable in the annals of crime. In that year, not less than sixty-nine persons were sentenced to death; while in 1854 and 1855 the numbers were but forty-nine and fifty. The convictions for murder alone were thirty-one, or considerably more than those of any of the preceding ten years. Another very curious and somewhat alarming fact is the steady growth of crime among females, as indicated by these returns. In 1846 there were twenty female criminals for every 100 of the other sex; last year they were in the proportion of twenty-six to 100. More than half the persons charged with murder last year were females, the majority of charges being for child-murder. Of the eighty-two persons who were charged with murder, forty-two were females; eleven females were charged with attempts to murder, out of the whole number of forty-one charged with the same offence. Forty-five females were charged with stabbing and wounding, and twenty-one were charged with arson.

POLICE.

LORD PANMURE'S HATTER.—William Robinson, stableman, ascribed as of "no particular residence," was charged, by Mr. Paynter, with the following attempt at fraud:—On Saturday evening prisoner went to the house of Lord Panmure, 3, Cheam Place, and, presenting a brown paper parcel, which he said had arrived from the country by express, demanded 3s. 6d. The Lordship's valet, thinking as well to ascertain whether it was a genuine parcel, as to get the money, took it to his master, who directed him to open it, when it was found to contain only part of an old coat without a lining, and by his Lordship's directions the accused was taken into the charge of the police.

In reply to inquiries from Mr. Paynter, the police said they knew nothing of the prisoner, nor could they ascertain if he had any antecedents, as he had given no address.

Prisoner was remanded for a week, the police being directed to the magistrate to make every inquiry in their power.

It was stated that in all probability there would be no case against the accused of a similar nature.

SUPPOSED BIGAMY WITH VIOLENCE.—Thomas Fawn, a plumber, was charged with assaulting his wife.

As the complainant was packing up, preparatory to their going into the country, her husband struck her a violent blow on the head with a life-preserver. He then left the house, and was apprehended at Chichester.

He stated that he and his wife had quarrelled about three children whom he had to support.

As it was supposed that the prisoner had another wife still living, he was remanded for inquiries.

DELAYS OF THE POST.—A Post office letter carrier, named Isaac Stocken, was charged with loitering, and thereby causing a delay in the delivery of his letters.

Bingham, a Post-office constable, saw the defendant on a certain day, enter a public house, called the Herford Arms, with his letters; this was at half-past nine in the morning. The policeman stepped inside and saw him there, smoking a cigar, having placed his letters on a side table in the tap-room. After a delay of ten minutes the defendant came out and delivered four or five letters in the immediate vicinity, and then returned to the public house.

Mr. Jardine fined the defendant £5.

MR. JACKSON IN DEEPER GRUPE.—Edward Jackson, oil and colourman, in Leonard Street, Shoreditch, who already stands charged, for participating, as receiver, in the robbery of Lady Elmsmere's jewels, was again brought up before Mr. D'Eyncourt upon several fresh charges, and was committed for trial for receiving jewels and property stolen from Miss Manley, knowing them to have been stolen.

AMUSING PRACTICAL JOKE.—Charles Hartley, a grocer's assistant, was brought up on remand before Mr. Secker, charged with wilfully altering a telegraph signal at the Bedford station of the London and Greenwich branch of the South Eastern Railway, thereby endangering the lives of the passengers.

Mr. Solomon proposed to be allowed to put in bail, to which Mr. Robinson objected, unless it were very substantial.

Mr. Secker said the case, he considered, was too serious to admit of bail, and as the sessions were so near he should at once commit him for trial.

The prisoner was then ordered to take his trial at the next Old Bailey Sessions.

ROBBERIES AT JEWELLERS'.—Henry Morris, William Clark, Charles Stevens, and John Hughes were charged with an attempt to take out a pane of glass from the window of a jeweller's shop in Henrietta Street, Covent Garden; also on suspicion of being concerned in several robberies from jewellers' shops, effected in the same manner.

It appears that within the last fortnight, several jewellers' shops have been robbed, in each case by four men, the mode adopted has been to pick out the petty by which a pane of glass was secured, and after loosening the pane, to seize upon such articles as were near enough to be reached by a hand passed through the opening. An attempt of this kind was made at the shop of Mr. Wells, of 19, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, on Thursday, when a pane of glass was cracked, but the men being disturbed, made their escape. In consequence of this, Sergeant Thomas, of the F division, with a party of constables, lay in wait on Friday night. The four prisoners were seen at the window that evening, but after remaining some time they were again interrupted and went away. Thomas followed them, but lost sight of them near Leicester Square. That evening a pane of glass was taken from a jeweller's window in Princes Street, and a quantity of jewellery taken. On Saturday night the constables were again on the watch, and saw the prisoners lurking about near the prosecutor's shop. After a while Morris and Hughes went to the window and proceeded to work at the petty with badlocks. They continued at this till they cracked the glass, when Mr. Wells, who was also watching from within, became alarmed for the safety of his property, and rushed out, again disturbing the prisoners. They attempted to escape, but were stopped by the police. Morris threw a badawl into an area, and another was taken from Hughes.

The prisoners were remanded for further evidence.

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